

**WARREN
MAGAZINE**



**EERIE
#49**

FEATURING THE MUMMY, THE WOLFMAN AND THE DEAD-THING!

EERIE

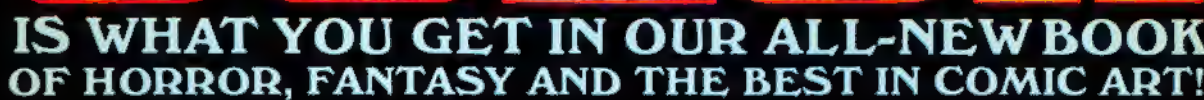
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JULY 1973

**FROM MURKY
POLLUTED
WATERS
A CORPSE
RISES!**

**"ONE IS THE
LONLIEST
NUMBER!"**
Page 6





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OUR COVER:
Marvin was ugly! He had no friends. And he felt like a failure in a world with too many people. So Marvin killed himself. But he even failed at that. He succeeded in making himself even more ugly. Esteban Maroto and Allen Milgrom tell the story of Marvin, the Dead-Thing. Page 6.

Editor & Publisher
JAMES WARREN

Managing Editor
W.B. DuBAY

Production
W.R. MOHALLEY

Cover
ENRICH

Artists This Issue
JAIME BROCAL
RICH BUCKLER
BILL DuBAY
ESTEBAN MAROTO
MUNES
PAUL NEARY

Writers This Issue
RICHARD MARGOPOULOS
ESTEBAN MAROTO
ALLEN MILGROM
STEVE SKEATES

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EERIE

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JULY 1973

4 DEAR COUSIN EERIE "The new DRACULA series in EERIE is tremendous," writes Michael Carnegie of Pittsburgh. And that just about sums up reader reaction to our new EERIE characters and format.

6 MARVIN, THE DEAD-THING Marvin had been lonely for weeks... ever since he killed himself by jumping off the bridge into the slime that passed itself off as a river. But Marvin found a friend; she too, was dead.

18 AND THE MUMMY WALKS The ancient Egyptian amulet of power falls into power-mad hands. And a man on the brink of insanity feels the thrill of becoming the all-powerful MUMMY, and learns how to KILL.

28 CURSE OF THE WEREWOLF Once more, bristle animal hairs cover the naked white flesh of Arthur Lemming. The beast in him has killed his little girl. Now, he lusts for the blood of his unfaithful wife.

36 THE ALIEN NATION Machines, trained killer-robots lash into the patriots, and a dozen freedom-fighters fall, writhing in agony. An alien nation has taken control of the earth. But men still struggle to be free.

48 FEAR ITSELF The crazies are out to-night... out to spread madness and mayhem over a sane world. But who are the crazies? And who are the sane? Can anyone truly say what is madness in a world of confusion?

66 DAX THE WARRIOR Madness erupts in the bowels of an ancient, musty castle as Dax meets Walenka, the beautiful and seductive goddess of his dreams. But Walenka lives only at night... as a vampire.

74 THE EERIE EYE What is it like to be a world renowned comic book artist? Jaime Brocal doesn't know. But he tells all about the way we kick him around when he brings in his art assignments. More of our great secrets.

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"Your horror mag is right at the front of the cemetery!"

Out of all the EERIE's I have seen, the cover of #47 must be the worst. When I saw it in the store, I was so disgusted I almost didn't buy the mag. But when I read the book, I realized the old saying "You can't judge a book by its cover" was very true in this case.

The interior art more than made up for the cover. I was shocked at the much superior quality of the art (and story) on Dracula, especially page 12. Even better than "Dracula" was "Lilith." I'm not familiar with Jaime Brocal, but I hope you keep him because he's a great artist. I also congratulate Nicola Cuti for his writing of this epic story. "Dax" was great this issue—probably the best story yet. I never liked science fiction, but that little touch of s-f at the end was a great way to combine sword-and-sorcery and science fiction. Had the cover been better, this would have been one of your best issues ever.

HENRY ZUGARO
Elmont, New York

I enjoyed EERIE #47 tremendously! The cover by Luis Dominguez was exquisite, and I simply loved the bright colors he used on it. It's my opinion that the letter sent in by James Arena, in which he states that Dominguez covers "stink," is completely out-of-line. I, for one, feel Dominguez has great talent, and I hope he continues to do covers.

CHARLES LASCAIBAR
Jersey City, New Jersey

I like vampires, so that's the reason I bought EERIE #46. But when I read page 14, I almost died! Why—WHY did you let the old crone whatchername kill the Conjuress? Please bring her back to life. After all, she is a goddess, and surely there is some way to raise a goddess from the dead!

BOB SKIR
East Norwich, New York

Congratulations on EERIE #46! It was by far the best issue in a long time. I especially enjoyed "Things in the Dark" and "Planet of the Werewolves." "Dracula" was good, even though the old count himself looked a lot like Johnny Carson! "Dax" was better, but still not quite up to par. "Garganza" could have been better. But as a whole, the issue was great!

STEVE LEWIS
Chelsea, Michigan

After reading and enjoying EERIE #46, I must say it's the best issue I've ever seen! Your new Dracula series started out in classic fashion. Tom Sutton, your artwork really made the story score, especially your portrait of the witch. I'm sorry, however, that the Conjuress had to die. "Garganza" started out standardly, but then twisted and proved unique among related stories. "Things in the Dark" was delightful, and "Planet of the Werewolves" gave me the creeps!

Cuz, I've always admired your mag and preferred it over your rivals. I've never really read Creepy's mag, though once I leafed through one of his issues (but I never leafed through another one since!). Vampirella is a good gal and has a good magazine, but she's too sexy. Why doesn't she just become a centerfold girl?

I'm glad to see you're putting in more vampire stories, but there's something about them I'd like to suggest. You've long been faithful to the theory that vampires cast no reflection and can't be photographed, but every now and then I've seen some of your vampires casting shadows—something a vampire shouldn't be able to do! If light goes right through a vampire (so he casts no reflection), neither should he have a shadow.

Dax? He's not much, EERIE-wise. I think you shouldn't abolish him entirely. You should give him away—to Vampirella. Maybe he can take her mind off Adam Van Helsing!

TOM TOBIE
Jefferson, Ohio

That Dracula story in EERIE #46 was a bit too much! First you had Dracula appearing in and out of the Vampirella saga. Next, Warren Publishing puts out a book called DRACULA, and then your competition puts out two more Dracula titles. All this, along with the latest Dracula series in EERIE, is just too much Dracula! Don't get me wrong—I'm not "anti-Dracula" (I think the Fred Ott scripts in "Monster Gallery" on the real Dracula are extremely fascinating)—but too many Draculas spoil the brew!

However, there are three good things which I must say about this Dracula series. One, I'm glad to see that you've got a good artist like Tom Sutton drawing it. Second, I'm glad to see that you have the series set back in 1906 (where Dracula should be) instead of having him in modern times. And third, I'm also glad to see that Dracula is separated from the Vampirella mess.

If you want to do a vampire series in EERIE or CREEPY, why not do one over "Dark Shadows," and then cancel the Dracula series? Get the "Dark Shadows" writers Gordon Russell and Sam Hall (who wrote "Dark Shadows" for TV) to write the series. Have them adapt it directly from the original "Dark Shadows" episodes that were televised between 1967 and 1971. Then get either Richard Corben or Reed Crandall (or some other artist who is familiar with how the characters looked) to draw the strip. I'd rather see Barnabas Collins and Count Petofi in your magazines than Vampirella or Dracula!

RICHARD CLARK
Pekin, Indiana

Some comments. Your EERIE #46 Dracula series should prove interesting, but I am disappointed to see your illustrator perpetuating the Hollywood-Lugosi Dracula rather than Stoker's original.

Lugosi, as you remember, introduced the white tie and tails, playboy slicker Dracula in the early 1930's. By contrast, Stoker's vampire dressed completely in black, sporting a great feral moustache which partially concealed the cruel teeth and distended lips. In fact, I have long conjectured that Stoker was familiar with the portrait of Vlad IV (mentioned at the beginning of EERIE #46), because there is an uncanny resemblance between the original portrait and Stoker's portrayal.

E. WESCOTT
Kittery, Maine

I'd just like to rap a second, and say issue #46 was really far-out, man! Ever since EERIE, CREEPY, and VAMPIRELLA have been on the market, I've dug them because they're so great. In this issue, all the stories were good, but my favorites were "Dracula," "Things in the Dark," and "Dax the Warrior."

Keep up the good work and keep on truckin'!

KEN ROBITZSCH
Barton, Florida

EERIE #46 was one of your better issues. The cover was one of the finest ones in a long time. The lead story, "Dracula," was enjoyable and had several interesting twists to it. "The Things in the Dark" was a fairly good horror tale with a great shock ending. "Garganza" was a relevant piece of science fiction, but of the other s-f tales, I didn't like "Root of Evil" very much and felt "Planet of the Werewolves" was cliché-ridden. Werewolves and vampires just do not mix well in a science fiction epic. My favorite story, however, was "The Giant" (Dax the Warrior). It was a fine piece of sword, sex, and sorcery.

REED SECORD
Reno, Nevada



One reader feels Tom Sutton's rendition of Dracula perpetuates the Hollywood-Lugosi version of the count instead of the original envisioned by author Bram Stoker. While another feels this issue's Drac looked a lot like Johnny Carson! Beauty is in the eye of the beholder.

"EERIE no. 46 is the best issue ever!"

Every time I get an issue of either EERIE or CREEPY, there's always something I'd like to say about it, but never do. Tonight, I decided it was about time I let you know what I thought.

First off, on the whole, I like what you're doing. You have the best stories of any American illustrated magazine. Some I've seen are politically relevant. Others are made of what any good short story is made of—suspense, character development—the whole schtick! The combination of artists and scripters you throw together can sometimes even send a shiver down the spine of a jaded old E.C. fan like myself! Which leads me to the question, "Why do you waste all this talent on worn-out werewolf and vampire stories with lots of gore for the kiddies?"

Occasionally you throw in an interesting twist into the stories, but mostly, it's the old bat-wings in the night and full moon and wolfsbane routine that's left over from the old Universal films of the 30's. Just about every Saturday night I can see Glen Strange running from tree to tree or Bela Lugosi making eyes at some woman and saying "Come!" I don't need the same from you, do I? And at the end, there's always the same silver bullet, stake, or fire. Even when the monster gets away, the ending is often a drag. All the gore in the world can't breathe life into a dead format!

EERIE and CREEPY could be even greater illustrated magazines if you'd let them. Cut the gore and sadism just for the sake of sadism and do more of the innovative, high quality stories I know you can do. Things like "Bright Eyes" from #43, "Thrill of the Hunt" from #44, or the "Accursed Flower" from CREEPY #49 are just a few. By doing an artistically better book, you'd gain older readers, many of whom are like my friends—comic fans who page through your mags, but feel they are only getting a couple of stories per issue worth reading.

At any rate, thank you for the good science fiction and sword-and-sorcery you have done along with a great number of other good stories. May your pens never clog and your typewriters never break! But just for the record, when Cousin Eerie says "Come on Brothers, Write!" he'd better remember a lot of Sisters read EERIE, too. The Sisterhood will get ya if ya don't watch out!

JIM COPLIN
Minneapolis, Minnesota

Greetings and salutations! Unfortunately, I must register my first complaint to the "EERIE Freaky Folks, Inc." If this is the way you have started your new series, "Dracula," I say only—stop it YESTERDAY; stop the presses, clear the machines, and fire the staff.

In other terms, methinks the story already stinks, and unless you've got a good "make-up" man, 'tis doomed. I cannot accept the ending that has been dealt the Conjurress. She who has waged war with Chaos, felled by a mortal blow. She who has surpassed the boundaries of time and space, killed by a blind witch woman. Come on—give us a break! Hoa Binh.

WANDA ALEXANDER
Monsey, New Jersey

A few issues ago, I started getting worried about the calibre of your stories, but fear not, Cousin—your horror mag is now at the front of the cemetery where it rightfully belongs. Sanjulian's cover was horrifyingly superb. Wholehearted congratulations are also definitely in order for Fred Ott, for devising such an original, unique story as "Things in the Dark." Also, Reed Crandall and Gerry Boudreau combined their great talents for "Planet of the Werewolves," and gave me and many of my friends a truly terrifying experience.

WARREN EPSTEIN
Monticello, New York

EERIE #46 was, in my opinion, one of the best issues you've ever put out! The new series featuring Dracula is tremendous! I'm looking forward to the next issue of EERIE just to find out what happens next.

As the other stories go, I enjoyed "Root of Evil" and "Garganza" the most. "Planet of the Werewolves" was okay, but the ending was really surprising! Although I like the Dax the Warrior strip, "The Giant" was not one of the best installments. "The Things in the Dark" wasn't quite up to the rest of the mag. But all in all, EERIE #46 was one of the best issues of all time.

MICHAEL CARNEGIE
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

Cousin, I like the stories in your EERIE books very much. Would you please write some more horror/comedy stories?

KENNY GREEN
Shady Valley, Tennessee

Then I could laugh all the way to the bank—the BLOOD bank, that is.



A GUEST EDITORIAL BY

PHIL SEULING

Creator and organizer of the New York Comic Art Convention, one of the largest and most respected dealers in the comic market, high school teacher, and a man whom we consider to be an excellent friend to all those involved in Comics in America.

On March 11, 1973 at 4:00 p.m., I was told suddenly by a tall man with a firm angry voice that "this is an arrest." Then, within a few bewildered minutes, I was taken away from my friends and my business, put into handcuffs, and led away to a waiting patrol car. The police had placed me under arrest for "selling indecent material to a minor."

My business was the seventeenth consecutive monthly comic book marketplace (called "Second Sunday"). I run this show, which gathers dealers and comic book fans together for a day of buying, selling, and trading. Comic books have been part of my life and income for fifteen years and more.

The charge against me involved underground comics, which I sell. The claim was that I sold these books to children of 13 and 14, which I do NOT do. I do not believe in censorship, but I do believe that parents have the veto right over their children's reading. I refuse to argue the proper age limit, whether it's 10 years old or 21, that a child becomes an adult. Arbitrarily I have always used 18. The law says 17. Not only have I guarded against selling "adult" material to minors, but I have insisted that all the dealers at my shows honor this restriction. But now, ironically and horribly, this accusation was made against me.

I can't easily express the feelings of being led publicly in handcuffs from the show. Or being questioned, fingerprinted, "mugged" (photographed), placed in a cell overnight, and left till morning. Or knowing that this animal-pens procedure was being inflicted on two teenage girls who were working at my tables and who were miserably frightened at this cold, heavy treatment.

Before I saw lawyer or judge I had to spend 21 hours in cells without food or water. During this time of

being made into a non-person, the announcement of my arrest, the reasons, and my name and address were broadcast over radio and TV and published in the NEW YORK TIMES. So were the names and addresses of the two girls. Can you feel the brutal unfairness of that, as I did?

Why did this happen? Was it deserved?

The story is that a month before, allegedly at my show, a youngster had bought an underground comic book. His father, seeing it, had taken it to his priest. The priest was interested in two things. One interest was in making the world pure by clamping down on evil. The second was publicity. Lots of it. His vigilante group was named in every report, published or broadcast. Success! (Yes, I and the two young girls suffered, but at least there was publicity!)

And now that we are under the threat of conviction, the agony of false imprisonment, and (for me) the potential loss of my job as a high school teacher, surely now the world is purified. Surely now you can feel secure that a malicious accusation can land any one of you in this same pit.

Or, like me, do you fear the vigilantes instead?

James Warren offered me this space to tell my side of the story. I don't know what you can learn from it. But I know what I've been taught. Can I trust a system which lets this happen? Can I cooperate ever again with police who have set traps, and sworn they saw what never happened? Can I ever know again, as I once did know, that living without hurting anyone, or destroying anything, was a guarantee that my life would be peaceful and free from the malice of others? No, on all counts.

This priest has found his sacrifice. I wonder how holy he feels.

WHAT-ME WORRY??

You're darn right—unless you readers get busy and send me your cards and letters! Address mail to:

DEAR COUSIN EERIE
c/o Warren Publishing
145 East 32nd Street
New York, N.Y. 10016

PROLOGUE

MARVIN KANFER
HAD ALWAYS BEEN
ALONE.

EVEN AS A CHILD HE
HAD VERY FEW
FRIENDS...

IT WASN'T THAT
PEOPLE DISLIKED
HIM...

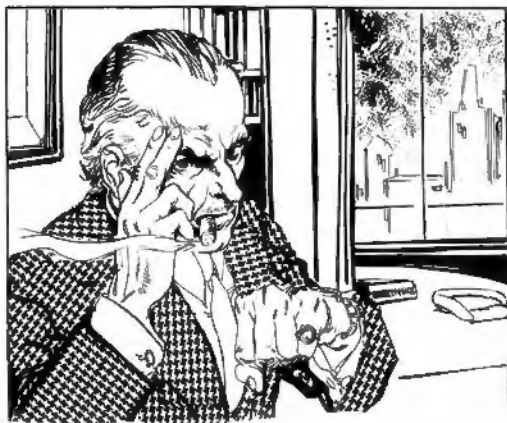
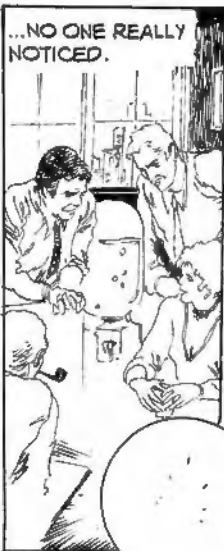
IT WAS JUST THAT THEY
DIDN'T CARE.

...NO ONE REALLY
NOTICED.

AND SO IT WAS THAT
WHEN MARVIN THREW
HIMSELF INTO THE
RIVER ONE COLD AND
LONELY NIGHT...

NO ONE, THAT IS,
EXCEPT MARVIN'S BOSS
WHO GRUMBLED ABOUT
MARVIN BEING SO LATE.
AND MADE A MENTAL
NOTE TO HIMSELF TO
FIRE "THAT USELESS
KANFER FELLOW"...

SOMETHING HE NEVER GOT THE OPPORTUNITY TO DO.



MEANWHILE, WASTE
MATERIALS BEING
PUMPED INTO THE
RIVER FROM
SEVERAL NEARBY
FACORIES ...



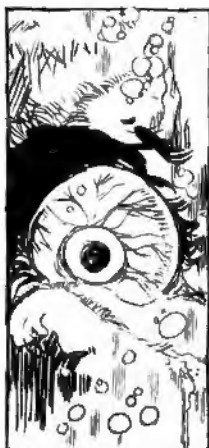
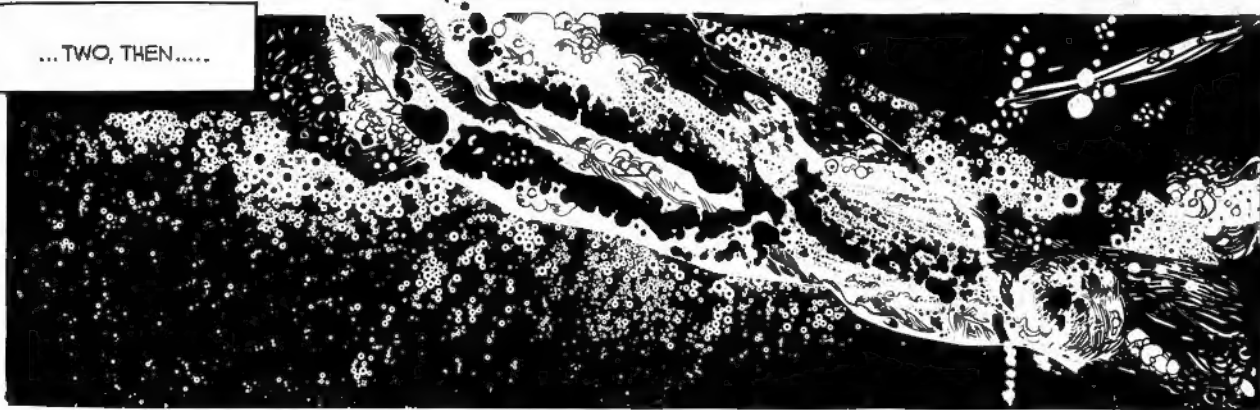
REACTED WITH THE
RIVER WATERS --
RESULTING IN A
MOST UNUSUAL
DEVELOPMENT.



ONE WEEK PASSED...



... TWO, THEN



MARVIN, THE DEAD-THING!



AT FIRST THE CREATURE THAT WAS MARVIN KANFER IS DAZED, CONFUSED, UNABLE TO GET HIS BEARINGS.

FINALLY DIRECTION COMES, AND WITH IT PURPOSE...

I...G-GOTTA...
I...**LATE**...LATE
FOR WORK,
G-GOTTA GET...
TO... WORK.

...B-BOSS'LL...KILL
ME...SO LATE...DON'T
REALLY WANT...TO GO...
NO ONE AT OFFICE EVER
PAYS ANY... 'TENTION TO
ME ANYWAY.

TO A MIND THAT HAS NOT
FUNCTIONED IN TWO WEEKS
TIME, COME THE FIRST
FALTERING THOUGHTS...

ATTENTION? IF IT'S
ATTENTION MARVIN'S
LOOKING FOR...

...TIRED...
RAT RACE...
ANYWAY...

DEAR GOD!
WHAT **IS** THAT
THING! HOW
HORRIBLE!



OBLIVIOUS TO THE REACTIONS OF THESE PEOPLE, MARVIN RIDES THE ELEVATOR TO HIS FLOOR, WRAPPED UP IN HIS STILTED THOUGHTS.



FOR THE FIRST TIME IN HIS LIFE, MARVIN IS NOTICED...



THOUGH THE RESULT IS LITTLE DIFFERENT FROM WHAT IT WAS IN PREVIOUS TIMES...



...MARVIN, KANFER IS STILL ALONE.

BEWILDERED, MARVIN TURNS TOWARDS HIS OFFICE...

NOW... WHY DID THEY *DO* THAT... N-NOT VERY NICE... WELL BETTER GET... TO WORK... WHA!



ONLY TO COME FACE TO FACE WITH THE HORROR THAT IS HIMSELF.



THEN THE THOUGHTS FLOOD BACK IN ON HIM, AND SLOWLY REALIZATION DAWNS.



THE RIVER... I JUMPED INTO THE RIVER... I... TH-THAT'S M-ME... W-WHAT DAY IS IT?

THE 16TH.... I... JUMPED... ON THE ...2ND... I...



STUNNED BY THE SUDDEN COMPREHENSION OF HIS SITUATION MARVIN FLEES OUT INTO THE STREET WHERE POLICE, SUMMONED BY HIS FRIGHTENED CO-WORKERS, ARE JUST ARRIVING ON THE SCENE



RUINED VOCAL CHORDS TRY VAINLY TO CONVEY SPOKEN WORDS, BUT THE SOUNDS THAT COME FORTH ARE NOT WORDS...



...AND THE POLICE, THINKING THE SOUNDS THREATENING GROWLS, ARE QUICK TO...

...ATTACK!



THEN, DISGUSTED WITH HIMSELF AND HIS PREDICAMENT, MARVIN LUMBERS OFF...



MARVIN ESCAPES DURING THE CONFUSION THAT FOLLOWS... AND SOON HIS STEPS LEAD HIM TO THE ONE PLACE THAT WILL ALLOW HIM SOLITUDE.

PANIC-STRICKEN, FRIGHTENED BY THE ATTACK, MARVIN REACTS LIKE ANY CORNERED BEAST! HE STRIKES BACK!



...AND HE BEATS BACK HIS PURSUERS...



...WITH WHATEVER MEANS ARE AT HAND.



...IF... I AM... VERY LUCKY... PERHAPS... THIS TIME...

... I... WILL ... DIE.



BUT WITHOUT THE HEAVY WEIGHT TO ANCHOR HIM, MARVIN MERELY DRIFTS DOWN THE RIVER, SUBJECT TO THE WHIMS OF THE CURRENT, LIKE ANY OTHER PIECE OF FLOTSAM.

AT LAST THE SWIRLING WATERS DEPOSIT HIM ON A WOODED BANK SEVERAL MILES FROM THE CITY.

GEE, MISTER...

...YOU SURE ARE FUNNY-LOOKING, MY NAME'S SUSIE, WHAT'S YOURS?

..F-FUNNY LOOKING?... SHE... NOT . AFRAID? NO.. NOT... NOT.. AFRAID.

IN THE DAYS THAT FOLLOW, MARVIN'S DULLED MIND ALL BUT FORGETS HIS DISFIGUREMENT. HE AND THE LITTLE GIRL BECOME PLAYMATES. FOR THE FIRST TIME IN HIS LIFE, MARVIN KNOWS CONTENTMENT, FOR THE FIRST TIME, HE HAS A FRIEND.

BUT THIS HAPPINESS PROVES TO BE SHORT-LIVED FOR ON THE MORNING OF THE FIFTH DAY...

HI, MISTER. GUESS WHAT. GUESS WHAT. I'VE GOT A BIG SURPRISE FOR YOU TODAY...



I BROUGHT MY DADDY TO MEET YOU.

?!!



MY DEAR, SWEET LORD.

BUT DADDY...



LATER THAT DAY IT BEGINS. THE MEN WITH THE HARD, DETERMINED LOOKS IN THEIR EYES, THE GUNS, THE TORCHES, THE SHOUTS...

YOU MEN FAN OUT! IT'S HERE SOMEWHERE! WE'LL FLUSH IT FROM THESE WOODS.



...AND AT LAST- **DISCOVERY!**

THERE HE IS! THERE THROUGH THOSE TREES! GET HIM!



THE CHASE. MEN HUNTING THAT WHICH THEY FEAR. THE SCENE MADE ALL THE MORE BIZARRE BY THE FLICKERING TORCHES AND THE EERIE SHADOWS THEY CAST.



SHADOWS FLICKER AND DANCE, ONE
MOMENT HIDING THE HUNTED...

I THOUGHT
I SAW HIM GO
BY HERE...

...THE NEXT MOMENT CASTING HIM INTO THE
DAMNING GLARE.

THERE
HE IS, NOW!
WE GOT HIM
SURE!

BUT THE SHADOWS ARE FICKLE, AND
THOUGH THEY MAY FAIL TO HIDE THE
ONE WHO MOST NEEDS THEIR
SUCCOR, THEY CAN STILL COVER ONE
SMALL FIGURE WHO NEEDS THEM
NOT.

ALL RIGHT
MEN,
READY...

...FIRE!

I WON'T
LET THEM
HURT YOU
MISTER,
I W-

POW!
POW!

K-POW!

G-BLAM!



THE NIGHT STANDS STILL AND HOLD'S ITS BREATH.
ONLY ONE BEING MOVES WITHIN IT.



A BEING DRIVEN BY
MEMORIES OF A DEATH
THAT SHOULD HAVE BEEN
HIS. A DEATH FORESTALLED
BY THE STRANGE RIVER
WATERS.



...MAYBE...THIS
...WORK AGAIN...
MAYBE..HOPE...

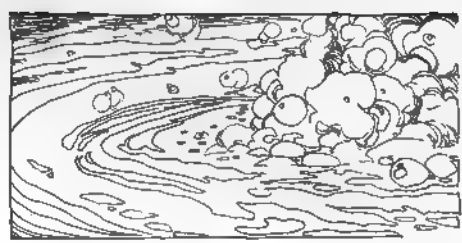
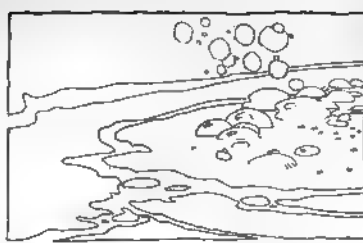
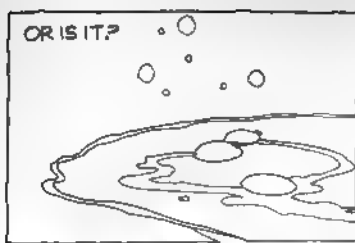


A WEEK PASSES, TWO!
NOTHING HAPPENS.



HALFWAY THROUGH THE
FOURTH WEEK, A LONELY
FIGURE TURNS FROM
THE RIVER BANK, HIS
LONELY VIGIL IN VAIN...





PEOPLE OFTEN SPEAK IN HUSHED WHISPERS OF THE TWO STRANGE CREATURES IN THE WOODS NEAR THE RIVER. THERE IS A SUPERSTITION BUILT UP AROUND THEM, FOR PEOPLE DON'T QUITE KNOW WHAT THEIR PRESENCE MEANS.

BUT THE BEING WHICH WAS ONCE MARVIN KANFER KNOWS WHAT IT MEANS... IT MEANS, QUITE SIMPLY, THAT HE IS NO LONGER ..

... ALONE.



END

PROLOGUE



THEY HEARD THE CLUMPING ON THE STAIRS OUTSIDE...IT WAS LOUD...



...BUT NOT **THAT** LOUD... JUST ANOTHER DRUNK --OR SO THEY THOUGHT... ANOTHER LONELY MAN WHO HAD TRIED TO DROWN HIS LONELINESS IN ALE...

CLUMP! - CLUMP! - CLUMP! - CLUMP! - CLUMP!



SUBCONSCIOUSLY, THEY BOTH IDENTIFIED WITH HIM A BIT ... PROBABLY A MAN WHO LIVED IN ONE OF THE APARTMENTS AT THE OTHER END OF THE HALL, COMING HOME, DRUNK AND ALONE...



...THEY HAD BOTH KNOWN LONELINESS... AND THEY HELD EACH OTHER CLOSE, GLAD TO HAVE ONE ANOTHER, AT LEAST FOR THIS ONE NIGHT...

CLUMP! - CLUMP! - CLUMP! - CLUMP!

BUT THEN, THE CLUMPING STOPPED, JUST OUTSIDE HER DOOR, AND THE NAUSEATING STENCH OF DECAY WASHED OVER THEM ... THE SCENT OF IMPENDING DEATH...

IT WAS A MOMENT THAT SEEMED TO LAST FOREVER... ALL WAS SILENT... AND THEY LAY THERE, PUZZLED, FRIGHTENED, CONFUSED, UNABLE TO MOVE, STARING AT THE DOOR, WAITING FOR THEM... KNEW NOT WHAT...



THEN...

...THEN IT CAME -- THE ROTTEN, WORM-
RIDDEN WOOD SPLINTERED, SMASHED BY
THE UNBELIEVABLY POWERFUL THRUST OF
A MASSIVE APPENDAGE...AND IT WAS
UPON THEM...

THE MUMMY WALKS

SMRASH!

OH
MY GOD!
WHAT
IS--

GOOD
LORD!
CA'MON!
WE'VE--

THE DEATH OF FRIEND!

SCRAMBLING IN ABJECT FEAR...TRYING TO
REACT... BUT REACTING TOO LATE...

NO! GET
AWAY! I
...UNNIGH!

NO! NO!
PLEASE!
I... I...

WHAT IS THIS CREATURE? AND, WHY HAS IT COME HERE, TO MY APARTMENT? THESE QUESTIONS DID NOT OCCUR TO HER. SHE KNEW ONLY FEAR, AS SHE BACKED AWAY...

... BACKED AWAY INTO THE DARK RECESSES OF HER MIND, HER CONSCIOUSNESS KINDLY SLIPPING AWAY. SHE FELT HERSELF FALLING...

... BUT THEN, SHE WAS CAUGHT BY MASSIVE HANDS... HANDS THAT DID NOT SEEK TO CRUSH, BUT LIFTED HER GENTLY...



SHE LOOKED MOMENTARILY THROUGH THE HAZE OF SEMI-CONSCIOUSNESS INTO THE CREATURE'S EYES...

... THEN, TRIED TO TEAR HER EYES AWAY... BUT COULDN'T... THE CREATURE'S GAZE WAS BURNING INTO HERS... NEARLY HYPNOTIZING HER...

THEN, IT SEEMED THAT THE CREATURE'S THOUGHTS WERE BURNING INTO HER MIND... AS THOUGH IT WERE TRYING... TO COMMUNICATE WITH HER...



IT WAS REPULSIVE... THE THOUGHT OF LETTING THIS THING GET INTO HER MIND... AND, AT FIRST, SHE FOUGHT... FOUGHT THE THOUGHTS...

... BUT SHE WAS WEAK, COULDN'T FIGHT, FINALLY GAVE IN... HELPING... PULLING, PULLING... SUCKING HIS THOUGHTS INTO HER BRAIN...

... SO THAT, AT LAST, THEY FLOODED INTO HER MIND, WASHING IN WITH HER OWN THOUGHTS ... AND THEN SHE **KNEW!**



YOU... YOU'RE **JEROME!** BUT...

BUT **HOW...**
HOW DID --

SUDDENLY, HIS GRIP TIGHTENED AND HIS HANDS REACHED FOR HER NECK... AS THOUGH THIS WERE ALL HE HAD WANTED-- FOR HER TO RECOGNIZE HIM... AND NOW HE WOULD END IT!

OH YES, YES...
UNNGH!

WHA-P

OH YES,
YES! TAKE
ME! DO WHAT
YOU WANT
WITH ME!

I'M
YOURS!
GIVE ME WHAT
I WANT!

SNAR



NOW THROUGH
THE MIDNIGHT
STREETS OF
BOSTON IN THE
EARLY 1900'S IT
SHAMBLLED...
CAREFUL NOW
NOT TO BE
SEEN...

DEAR, WHAT'S
THAT **SMELL?**

OH...
PROBABLY JUST A
GARBAGE WAGON!
GO BACK TO
SLEEP!



...FINALLY, APPROACHING, A
DARKENED MUSEUM... AND
THE SILENCE OF THIS NIGHT
WAS DEAFENING...



HERE WAITED ITS SARCOPHAGUS... AND AN
APPARENTLY UNCONSCIOUS MAN...



WINGED THOUGHTS...AN
ENTIRE MIND...NOTHING
SOLID, NOTHING VISIBLE...
AN ABSTRACT CONCEPT...
FLOATING BETWEEN
TWO SOLID ENTITIES...
THE MYSTIC TRANSFERENCE
...THE RETURN...



...UNTIL, AT LAST, HIS MIND WAS
BACK IN HIS OWN BODY...THEN, HE
DEPARTED...



...AND THE FOG SWIRLED ABOUT
HIM...THE NIGHT, LIKE A MOTHER,
CLUTCHING HER MURDEROUS CHILD...

DISSOLVE. FADE IN HOURS
LATER ON THE FACE OF A MAN
NAMED DOUGLAS HINDLEY
...A FACE THAT REGISTERS
SHOCK, DISGUST, HORROR...



MY GOD!
OH MY GOD!

AND, BEFORE LONG, DOUG WAS
STANDING IN THE BACKGROUND
AS THE POLICE BEGAN THEIR
INVESTIGATION...

NOTHING MUCH
TO GO ON! JUST
THIS STRANGE **GRAY**
DIRT ON THE VICTIMS'
THROATS!

WHERE'S
THAT YOUNG MAN
WHO **FOUND**
THE BODIES?

RIGHT
HERE,
SIR!



IF YOU WANT TO
KNOW WHAT HAPPENED,
IT'S ALL RATHER SIMPLE
ACTUALLY -- I WAS
COMING UP HERE AND
SAW THAT THE DOOR
HAD BEEN
SMASHED IN.
SO --



HOLD ON
A MINUTE,
PLEASE. . . AND BE
KIND ENOUGH
TO TELL ME
WHAT YOU
WERE DOING
HERE?

I WAS COMING UP
TO SEE **MOLLY**! SHE
IS... **WAS** A GOOD
FRIEND OR MINE!

I **SEE**! AND
YOU SAY THE
DOOR WAS
SMASHED LIKE
THAT WHEN YOU
ARRIVED?

YES!

AND HOW DO I KNOW
THAT **YOU** DIDN'T KILL
THESE TWO?

WH--? **NONSENSE!**
DO YOU HONESTLY
BELIEVE THAT **I**
COULD HAVE DONE
THAT TO THE
DOOR?

BESIDES,
WHY WOULD
I DO IT? WHAT
WOULD BE MY
MOTIVE FOR
DOING SUCH
A THING?

YOU SAY YOU WERE A
FRIEND OF THE YOUNG LADY --
CORRECT? WELL, PERHAPS YOU
CAME UP HERE, CAUGHT HER WITH
THIS **OTHER** MAN, AND **KILLED**
THEM BOTH!

SUCH THINGS HAVE
BEEN **KNOWN TO**
HAPPEN, YOU KNOW?

YES, I'M
SURE THEY
HAVE!

BUT APPARENTLY
YOU DON'T **UNDER-**
STAND WHAT I MEAN
BY THE WORD
"FRIEND!"

I **KNEW** ABOUT
MOLLY-- KNEW ABOUT HER
AND ALL HER **MEN**!

AND I LIKED HER
THE WAY SHE
WAS!

A FEW MORE QUESTIONS, AND THEN HE
WAS LET GO... AND SPENT HIS
AFTERNOON IN A DRAMSHOP... THINKING...
REMEMBERING...

POOR MOLLY! SHE WAS A
SAD AND **LONELY** PERSON--A
WOMAN WHO WAS SO AFRAID OF BEING
ALONE, SHE WOULD ACCEPT A
LIAISON WITH ALMOST **ANYONE!**

YET, NO ONE
REALLY **CARED**
ABOUT HER -- NO
ONE GAVE A **DAMN**
ABOUT HER-- NONE
OF HER **MEN**...
NO ONE...

...EXCEPT,
PERHAPS,
ME!

AND THE
SADEST THING
IS -- NOBODY
CARES *NOW*,
EITHER!

IF SHE WERE
AN IMPORTANT
PERSON, THE POLICE
WOULD REALLY
INVESTIGATE HER DEATH!
BUT, FOR HER, THEY
WOULDN'T EVEN *HALF-
TRY!*

HER LIFE
WAS *HARD!*

AND SOMETIMES I GOT
THE FEELING THAT SHE *WANTED*
TO DIE... BUT COULDN'T BRING
HERSELF TO TAKE HER OWN LIFE!

...I USED TO THINK THAT
IF DEATH CAME HER WAY, PERHAPS
SHE WOULD *EMBRACE IT!*

BUT STILL, IF I EVER
FIND OUT WHO
KILLED HER, I'LL--

DOUG!
I'VE BEEN
LOOKING
EVERYWHERE
FOR YOU!

HUNK?

I *KNEW* I'D FIND YOU IN A
PLACE LIKE THIS! THE
TROUBLE IS-- THERE ARE SO
MANY PLACES LIKE THIS IN THE
CITY!

WELL, SIS--
I'LL SAY *ONE*
THING-- YOU'RE
AS OUT OF PLACE
HERE AS A GEM
WOULD BE IN A
CESSPOOL! I
TRUST YOU'RE
NOT *UNES-
CORTED!*

*CERTAINLY
NOT!*

THAT, AS A
MATTER OF
FACT, IS *WHY*
I *WANTED* TO
SEE YOU!

I WANT YOU TO MEET THE
YOUNG MAN WHO HAS BEEN
CALLING UPON ME LATELY!
AND SINCE YOU'RE SO *SELDOM*
HOME, I DECIDED WE'D COME
FIND YOU!

DOUG, THIS IS **JEROME CURRY!** JEROME IS A **NATIVE BOSTONIAN**, BUT HE'S BEEN AWAY FOR AWHILE-- **OUT OF THE COUNTRY!**

HE'S TAKEN A **JOB** NOW IN OUR **LOCAL MUSEUM!**

JEROME --MY **BROTHER, DOUG!**

GLAD TO MEET YOU, DOUG!

LIKEWISE!

WOW! SIS HAS ALWAYS HAD A TENDENCY TO GO OUT WITH **ABSOLUTE UPPER-CRUST CREEPS--** AND THIS ONE LOOKS LIKE **NO EXCEPTION!**

BUT THAT'S HARDLY ANY CONCERN OF MINE!

HMMPH... NOT ONLY IS THIS ONE A **CREEP...** HE'S A **DOLLARD** AS WELL...

HE'S HARDLY SAID **TWO WORDS** SINCE I INVITED THEM TO JOIN ME!

I'M CERTAINLY NOT OFFERING **HIM** ANOTHER DRINK!

MORE AND MORE ALE... OCCASIONAL THOUGHTS AND MEMORIES OF MOLLY...AND FINALLY THE FACE OF ANOTHER WOMAN HELD HIS HANDS-- ALL THIS CAME THAT NIGHT...

ALL THIS... AND **MORE!**

CRASH!

WHA-?

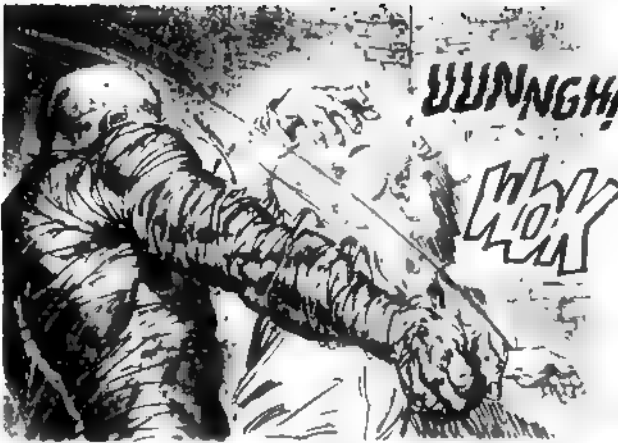
AH, GLAD TO GET RID OF **THEM!**

HAD TO WATCH MY **DRINKING** FOR AWHILE! DIDN'T WANT TO **SHOCK** MY BLUE-NOSED SISTER!

BUT NOW...



FEAR THAT CUTS THROUGH INTOXICATION... FEAR THAT SNAPS ONE INTO SOBRIETY...



STILL, IT IS HARD TO RUN AFTER A NIGHT OF HEAVY DRINKING... AND ESPECIALLY HARD TO RUN FAST... AND SO IT WAS THAT DOUG'S HEAD WAS CAUGHT BY THE CREATURE'S ARM. . AND SMASHED INTO A WALL...



SOMETHING HAD HAPPENED TO DOUG... SOMETHING HAD HAPPENED INSIDE HIM... HE COULDN'T SEEM TO MOVE... BUT HE COULD STILL SEE... AND HE LOOKED ON AS THE CREATURE GRABBED THE GIRL BY THE SHOULDERS...

... AND NOTICED...



THAT DIRT THAT THING'S GETTING ON HER... IT'S THE SAME AS THE DIRT THAT WAS ON MOLLY'S NECK!

THE THING CONTINUED TO HOLD THE GIRL, AND STARE INTO HER EYES... UNTIL...



GOOD GOD! YOU'RE JEROME! BUT--

WHAT??

AND, EVEN AS THE CREATURE WENT FOR THE NECK, AND THE GIRL SCREAMED OUT... DOUG BEGAN TO REALIZE...

AAAARRRGH!

THIS THING! -- IT'S AN EGYPTIAN MUMMY!

AND "JEROME" -- THAT WAS THE NAME OF THAT CREEP SIS WAS WITH... AND HE HAD JUST COME BACK FROM EGYPT! DOES THAT MEAN--?



FINALLY, HE
FORCED HIS
BROKEN
BODY TO
MOVE...

I'VE GOT TO
GET OUT OF
HERE! DO
SOMETHING
ABOUT THIS!



THE PEOPLE WERE USED TO HEARING SCREAMS AND CRASHING SOUNDS
THERE IN THAT SLUM AND NO ONE LOOKED OUT HIS WINDOW. NO ONE
CARED TO FIND OUT WHAT HAD HAPPENED. NO ONE KNEW THAT A YOUNG
MAN HAD JUST DIED. NO ONE EXCEPT THIS CREATURE THAT HAD
KILLED HIM... THIS THING THAT NOW SHAMBLED OFF, INTO THE WAITING
DARKNESS!



YOURS IS AN
UNIMPORTANT
DEATH, DOUGLAS
HINDLEY... YOURS
TOO WILL HARDLY
BE INVESTIGATED.

END

CURSE OF THE WEREWOLF

THE FULL MOON FLEES...

...AND WITH IT, FLEES THE
BLOODLUSTING BEAST,
LEAVING ONLY THE WALLEST
OF RECOLLECTIONS.

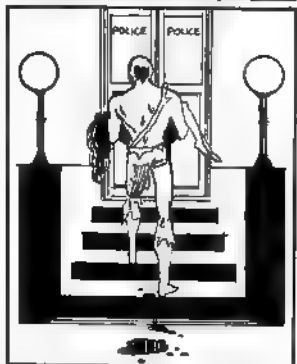
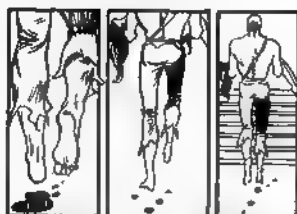
...AND THE ICY REALITY OF
A SMALL GIRL'S DEATH!

DEAR
GOD
NOT
MIRIAM!

MY
GOD!



BARE FEET PAD THEIR WAY...*UNFEELING!*



THOUGHTS OF THE *VIOLENCE*
BARELY SKIRT THE EDGE OF HIS
AWARENESS...
...AS HE ENTERS THE POLICE
STATION GUIDED THERE BY HIS
HUMAN INSTINCTS!



THIS MAN... THIS
WEREWOLF,
ARTHUR LEMMING,
WHO HAS JUST
MURDERED
HIS OWN
DAUGHTER!

BUT NOW THE *ANIMAL* INSTINCTS ARE SUBMERGED... AND ONLY *PAIN* REGISTERS ON ARTHUR LEMMING'S STRICKEN SENSES!

ANOTHER VICTIM... OF THE... *KILLER*!

MY...
LITTLE...
GIRL...



LORD!

YOU'VE GOT A FEW QUESTIONS TO ANSWER...

BRIGHTON! SURELY THIS CAN WAIT...!

THE POLICEMAN APPROACHES, WITH A LOOK OF HORROR THAT SNAPS INTO SHOCKING... *ACCUSATION*!

LIKE FOR INSTANCE...

WHAT ARE YOU DOING WITH HARDLY NO CLOTHES ON AT THIS TIME OF THE MORN?

I...

I MUST HAVE FOUGHT THE MONSTER! T...TORN MY SHIRT! I C...CAN'T REALLY REMEMBER!

...MAYBE! BUT WITH NO CUTS OR *WOUNDS* FROM THE FIGHT?

HMMM!

AN HOUR'S TIME PASSES WITH UNBEARABLE SLOWNESS! AND WHEN ARTHUR'S WIFE, ANGELA IS BROUGHT TO THE STATION HOUSE...

... IT IS A DAZED AND WEAK COUPLE WHO RETURN TO THEIR NOW *BROKEN* HOME!

HEY! WAIT A MINUTE, YOU...!

GIVE THAT BACK!

OW!

YOU'RE HURTING ME!

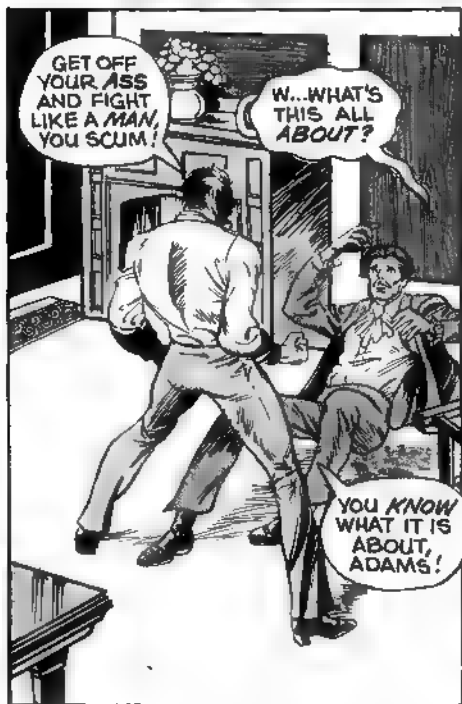
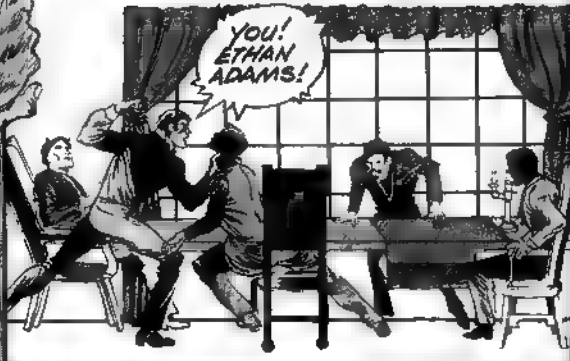
A KEY!



SUDDENLY, THE DOOR
BURSTS OPEN...



...AND AN ANGRY ARTHUR LEMMING
LASHES INTO THE MAN RESPONSIBLE
FOR HIS WIFE'S UNFAITHFULNESS!



AGAIN AN INTRUDER
BURSTS INTO THE
COUNCIL ROOM....!

ANGELA
LEMMING
COMING TO
WARN HER
LOVER....!



ETHAN!
ARTHUR'S
COMING...
TO...



YOU'RE
TOO LATE,
MY DEAR!

ETHAN!

ETHAN!
IS WHAT
HE CLAIMS
TRUE?

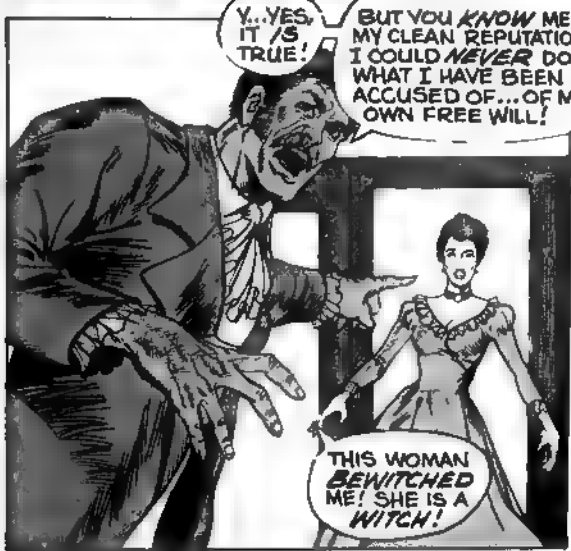
IS THIS
WOMAN
YOUR
MISTRESS?



MUST
THINK
FAST!

I COULD
LOSE MY
POSITION...
MY POWER,
BECAUSE
OF THIS
WITCH....!

THAT'S
IT!



Y...YES,
IT *IS*
TRUE!

BUT YOU KNOW ME!
MY CLEAN REPUTATION.
I COULD NEVER DO
WHAT I HAVE BEEN
ACCUSED OF... OF MY
OWN FREE WILL!

THIS WOMAN
BEWITCHED
ME! SHE IS A
WITCH!



THIS IS A
SERIOUS
ACUSATION!



STILL,
WE MUST
CONSIDER
IT!



TAKE NO
CHANCES!
GRAB HER!

ROUGH HANDS SIEZE ANGELA! AND AS THEY DO, THE PRESSURE... THE *INNER PAIN* FROM THE DAY'S
EVENTS, CATCH UP TO ARTHUR! AND HE FEELS THE *TINGLE*... THE *CHANGE*...



ETHAN!
HOW
COULD
YOU?

JUST TO
SAVE YOUR
OWN POLITICAL
HIDE?!

NO!
W.. WHAT'S
HAPPENING
TO ME?

BUT NO ONE
SEEMS TO
NOTICE...



UNNOTICED,
ARTHUR
RUNS FROM
THE ROOM...

DIZZY...



ONLY TO COME UNDER THE GLARE OF A BRIGHT YELLOW ORB!

LAST NIGHT
CONSTABLE
EVERS CAUGHT
A BEAST AT
MY WINDOW...

A BEAST
THIS WITCH
NO DOUBT
CREATED
AND
CONTROLS!

WE MUST
DO AWAY
WITH HER!

AND AS THE
COUNCIL
DELIBERATES
ON THE
WITCHCRAFT
WITHIN...

...NO POWER ON EARTH CAN
STOP THE SORCERY WITHOUT!



BRISTLE
ANIMAL
FUR
COVERS
ARTHUR,
LEMMING'S
BODY!



AND A MIND
CONTROLLED
BY KILLER
INSTINCTS...



...TAKES FULL
POSSESSION!



ARTHUR IS A WEREWOLF!

DISTANT...
UNREASONING!



BUT HIS INSTINCTS
TELL HIM...

...THAT HE MUST KILL!



AND IT MATTERS LITTLE
WHO IS TO BE THE VICTIM!



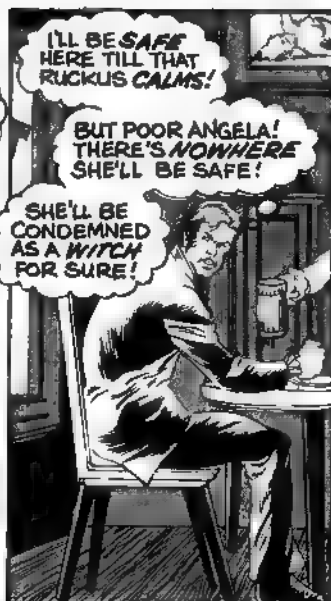


HAH!
WHAT
LUCK!

BECAUSE THAT
BEAR STUMBLED
INTO OUR MEETING
ROOM WHEN HE
DID...

...THOSE FOOLS
BELIEVE ANGELA
REALLY IS A
WITCH!

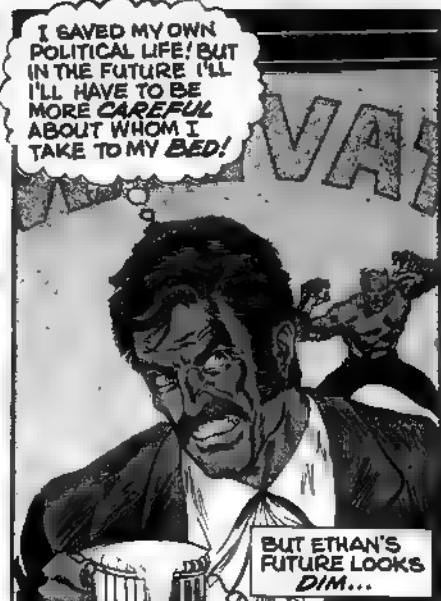
BUT SHE'S
NO MORE
A WITCH
THAN I!



I'LL BE SAFE
HERE TILL THAT
RUCKUS CALMS!

BUT POOR ANGELA!
THERE'S NOWHERE
SHE'LL BE SAFE!

SHE'LL BE
CONDEMNED
AS A WITCH
FOR SURE!



I SAVED MY OWN
POLITICAL LIFE! BUT
IN THE FUTURE I'LL
HAVE TO BE
MORE CAREFUL
ABOUT WHOM I
TAKE TO MY BED!

BUT ETHAN'S
FUTURE LOOKS
DIM...



CRASH!

ANIMAL INSTINCTS
HAVE DRAWN
ARTHUR LEMMING,
WEREWOLF, HERE!



THE SAME INSTINCTS
THAT TELL HIM THIS
MAN IS HIS ENEMY!

AND TO AN
IRRATIONAL,
MURDEROUS
MIND...

...AN ENEMY MUST BE DESTROYED!



AAAARG!

AND AS THE BEAST THAT
IS ARTHUR LEMMING
FLEES, IN SEARCH OF
NEW BLOOD TO SHED...

HE IS LITTLE AWARE
OF THE JUSTICE HE
HAS DEALT OUT THIS
NIGHT!

ETHAN ADAMS
HAS PAID FOR
BREAKING UP
ARTHUR'S FAMILY!

HE HAS PAID IN FULL
FOR THE LIFE OF A
SMALL AND INNOCENT
YOUNG GIRL!

THE ALIEN NATION! OVER POPULATION

EVENT: AN URBAN
SCENARIO!

TIME: CURFEW!

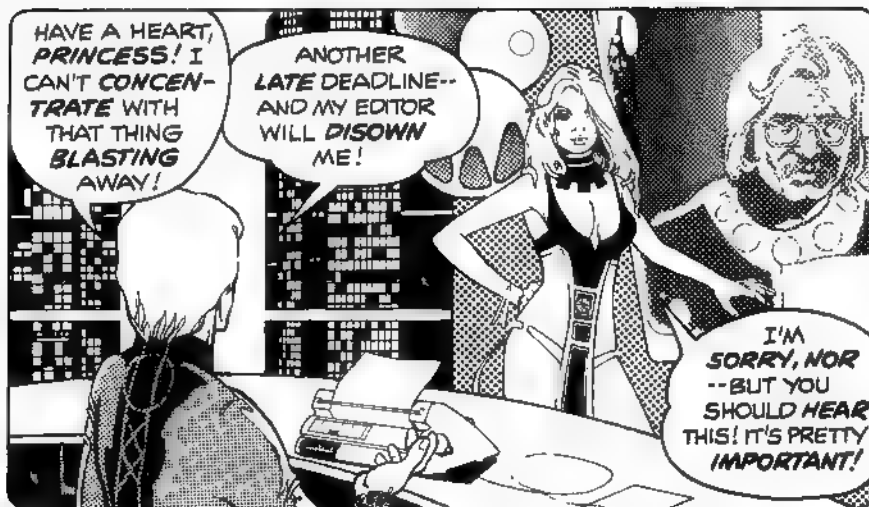
SCENE: A LUSH SPECK
OF MOON-LIT GREEN
SURROUNDED BY WALLS
OF GREY--A PARK! ONE
THAT HAPPENS TO BORDER
THE GOVERNMENT'S MONO-
LITHIC DIRECTORY
BUILDING!

PLAYERS: A
DILIGENT BAND
OF DEDICATED
PEOPLE-- FIGHTING
UNDER THE
DIRECTION OF
NOR KAVALEC.

GOAL: LIBERTY
OR DEATH!

AND ON THAT
SOMBER NOTE--
OUR SAGA STARTS...





HAVE A HEART, PRINCESS! I CAN'T CONCENTRATE WITH THAT THING BLASTING AWAY!

ANOTHER LATE DEADLINE-- AND MY EDITOR WILL DISOWN ME!

I'M SORRY, NOR --BUT YOU SHOULD HEAR THIS! IT'S PRETTY IMPORTANT!

...ENERGY RESERVES ARE CRITICALLY LOW! MOREOVER COLLECTIVE FARMS HAVE AGAIN FAILED...TO MEET ASSIGNED QUOTAS!



THE UNITED NATIONS HAS RESPONDED TO THE SITUATION BY CREATING A WORLD-WIDE DIRECTORY...

A FIVE-MEMBER PANEL THAT WILL CONTROL INTERNATIONAL GOVERNMENT! THESE EXPERTS PLAN TO NEUTRALIZE ALL SOCIAL PROBLEMS!

YOU HAVEN'T LISTENED TO A SINGLE WORD I'VE SAID!

WELL, WRITE YOUR LITERARY MASTERPIECE... IF IT'S MORE IMPORTANT THAN I AM!

EVERY TIME SOME BUREAUCRAT FAILS --THE CITIZENS HAVE TO TIGHTEN THEIR BELTS! WE'RE THE SCAPEGOATS! NOR?

DON'T TAKE IT LIKE THAT, JUDIE! I LOVE YOU-- BUT THERE'S TIMES WHEN MY WORK COMES FIRST!

CLICK!

REALITY IS OBLIVIOUS TO THESE
STALKING REBELS! CRICKETS CHIRP!
STARS GLITTER! TWIGS SNAP HOLLOW-
LY UNDERFOOT...



--AS NATURE REMAINS UTTERLY ALOOF...
FOREVER OUTSIDE THE PETTY AFFAIRS
OF MEN!



CITIZENS! SOME WEEKS
AGO--IT WAS ANNOUNCED THAT
A **DIRECTORY** WAS BEING
FORMED!

AS SPOKESMAN FOR THAT AUGUST BODY--
I DEPLORE THE **FOOD-RIOTS** THAT RECENTLY
SHOOK CHICAGO, LENINGRAD AND PEKING!

A MASSIVE MILITARY **CRACK-DOWN** HAS
ENSUED! ALL **LAW BREAKERS** WILL BE
SEVERELY PUNISHED!

TO HELP MAINTAIN
GLOBAL ORDER--THE
WORLD'S FIRST **INDEPENDENT
THINKING** COMPUTER HAS BEEN
BUILT...NICKNAMED
'ANNA MAY'!

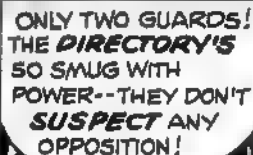
SHE HAS
ALREADY RELEASED
HER **FIRST
DECREE!**

DISSIDENT CITIZEN-GROUP
FORMING--- WILL ATTEMPT
ASSAULT AS PREDICTED---
COUNTER-FORCES MOVING
INTO POSITION---
ANNA MAY

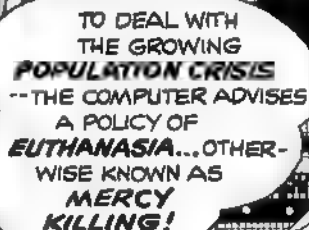
THIS IS
IT, GENTLEMEN
--THE **SHOW
DOWN!**

I SAID THERE WAS
NOTHING TO
FEAR ALL ALONG!
EVERYTHING
IS WELL IN
HAND!

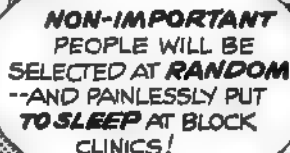




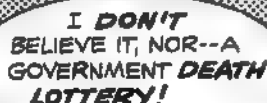
ONLY TWO GUARDS!
THE **DIRECTORY'S**
SO SMUG WITH
POWER--THEY DON'T
SUSPECT ANY
OPPOSITION!



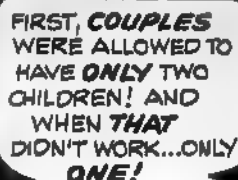
TO DEAL WITH
THE GROWING
POPULATION CRISIS
--THE COMPUTER ADVISES
A POLICY OF
EUTHANASIA... OTHER-
WISE KNOWN AS
**MERCY
KILLING!**



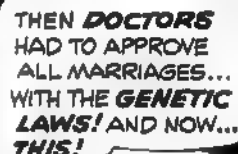
NON-IMPORTANT
PEOPLE WILL BE
SELECTED AT **RANDOM**
--AND PAINLESSLY PUT
TO **SLEEP** AT BLOCK
CLINICS!



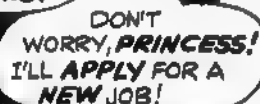
I **DON'T**
BELIEVE IT, NOR--A
GOVERNMENT **DEATH**
LOTTERY!



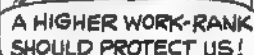
FIRST, **COUPLES**
WERE ALLOWED TO
HAVE **ONLY TWO**
CHILDREN! AND
WHEN **THAT**
DIDN'T WORK...**ONLY**
ONE!



THEN **DOCTORS**
HAD TO APPROVE
ALL MARRIAGES...
WITH THE **GENETIC**
LAWS! AND NOW...
THIS!



DON'T
WORRY, **PRINCESS!**
I'LL APPLY FOR A
NEW JOB!



A HIGHER WORK-RANK
SHOULD PROTECT US!



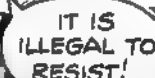
HERE'S THE FIRST TAPE OF **NAMES**.
BE SURE THE **STATE POLICE** GET
A COPY **AT ONCE!**



THE CHAIN-OF-COMMAND UNLEASHES A CHAIN
OF EVENTS!



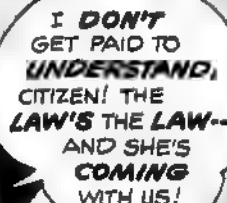
USE YOUR **ELECTRIC**
PASS TO OPEN THE
DOOR, **PATROLMAN!**



IT IS
ILLEGAL TO
RESIST!



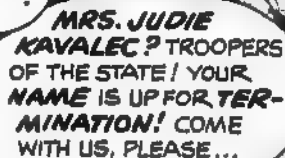
OFFICER
YOU DON'T
UNDERSTAND!
I NEED
TIME...



I **DON'T**
GET PAID TO
UNDERSTAND,
CITIZEN! THE
LAW'S THE LAW--
AND SHE'S
COMING
WITH US!



BY
WHAT
RIGHT--?



MRS. JUDIE
KAVALEC? TROOPERS
OF THE STATE! YOUR
NAME IS UP FOR **TER-**
MINATION! COME
WITH US, PLEASE...

THERE ARE
MOMENTS--NO
DOUBT--WHEN
BEING FITFULLY
ALIVE IS
BARELY
TOLERABLE

THIS IS ONE SUCH
INSTANCE...AS
EYELIDS FLICKER
OPEN...AND
AWARENESS HESI-
TANTLY RETURNS...

--AND WITH IT: PAIN!

I'VE BEEN
WAITING
TO LEAD THIS
STRIKE FOR
WEEKS--LIKE
A CHILD
ANTICIPAT-
ING CHRIST-
MAS!

BUT I DON'T
FEEL THE
ELATION I
EXPECTED!

ONLY
EMPTINESS!

BUT TRY TO BUCK
THE SYSTEM AGAIN--
AND YOU'LL END UP IN
A CORRECTIVE
LABOR CAMP!
REMEMBER
THAT!

UNN--YES,
PATROLMAN!
THANKS FOR THE
ADVICE!

YOU'LL BE
OKAY, CITIZEN!
COULDN'T LEAVE YOU
WITH A CRACKED
SKULL! WE'RE NOT
THAT INHUMAN!

NARROW BEAMS OF PURPLE
HELL-FIRE FLARE OUT! AN
OFFICER DROPS TO THE
UNYIELDING WALKWAY...

QUICKLY FOLLOWED
BY HIS STUNNED
PARTNER!

MECHANICAL
HARVESTERS
FIRE WITH
MINDLESS FURY
--COMPLETELY
UNCARING THAT
THEY REAP
HUMAN WHEAT!

--AS A WELL-PLANNED TRAP
IS SWIFTLY SPRUNG! METAL
STORM TROOPERS LEAP TO
THE FRAY...

--ANTHROPOMORPHIC
ASSASSINS WHOSE NAMES
ARE SPOKEN IN FEARFUL
WHISPERS...

CRASH!

--COMPUTER
KILLERS!

THE GODLESS PRESS OF UNTOLD
NUMBERS OF PEOPLE! EACH AN
INDIVIDUAL--BUT COLLECTIVELY,
A FACELESS MASS!

IT IS THRU THIS TEEMING
THRONG THAT NOR SQUEEZ-
ES HIS WAY SALMON-
LIKE...BACK TO HIS
CUBICAL WITH ITS
SMALL AURA OF
SECURITY!

LASERS
HISS
AND
SIZZLE
IN THE
NIGHT!

MAN AND
STEEL-STRIDING
MACHINE BOTH
HOLD HARD-
FOUGHT GROUND!

OHH--MY
HEAD! HAVE TO CALL
THE **BLOCK LEADER**--
TRY TO **PULL**
STRINGS TO SAVE
MY WIFE!

MY
LOVING LORD!
JUDIE--
IN THE **CLINIC**
WINDOW!

THERE IS HURT HERE!
TERRIBLE HURT! LIFE IS A
BLOATED MONSTER...CRUSHING
THE BEWILDERED WRITER
DOWNWARD...WITH ITS EVER-
OPPRESSIVE WEIGHT!

BLINDED BY GRIEF --
STRUGGLING WITH AN
EXISTANCE THAT RE-
FUSES TO COPE...NOR
STAGGERS AWAY IN
AIMLESS RETREAT....

--ATTACK!

--CAST ADRIFT WITH
HIS SOUL SCREAMING
IN ANGUISH...

--ANGUISH OVER
A LOST PRINCESS
THAT SOCIETY
TERMED 'WIFE'
AND HE AS 'LOVE'!

MANY THINGS
SEETHE WITHIN!


LONELINESS!

ANXIETY!

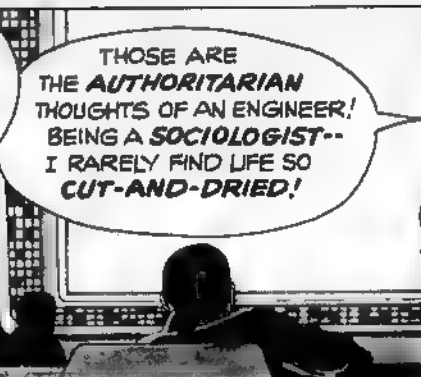
FUTILITY!

BUT EXPLODING ABOVE ALL...

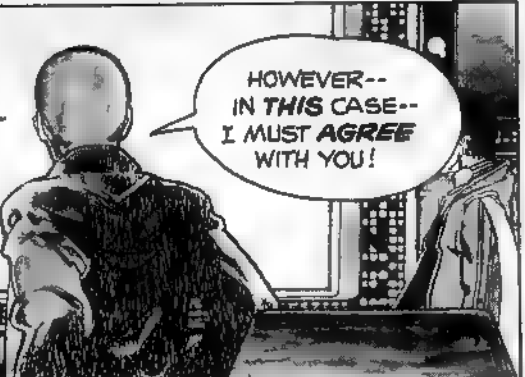
--VENGEANCE!!



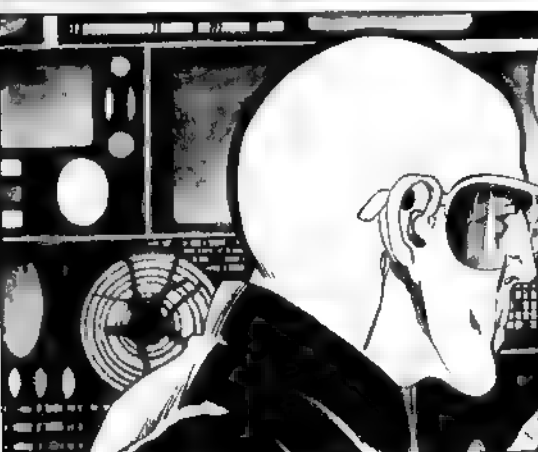
THE SCREEN'S A **COMPLETE BLANK!** **ANNA MAY** HAS STOPPED REPORTING! **SHOULDN'T** BE LONG NOW!




THOSE ARE THE **AUTHORITARIAN** THOUGHTS OF AN **ENGINEER!** BEING A **SOCIOLOGIST--** I RARELY FIND LIFE SO **CUT-AND-DRIED!**



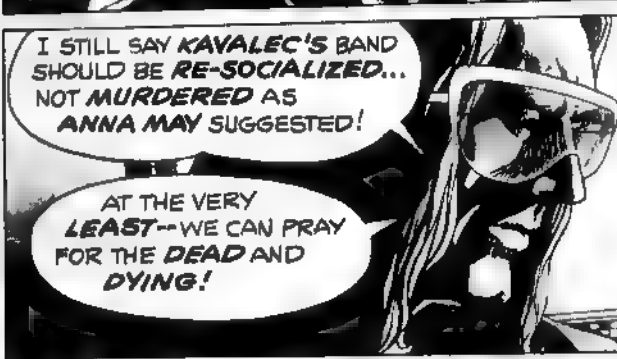
HOWEVER-- **IN THIS CASE--** I MUST **AGREE** WITH YOU!



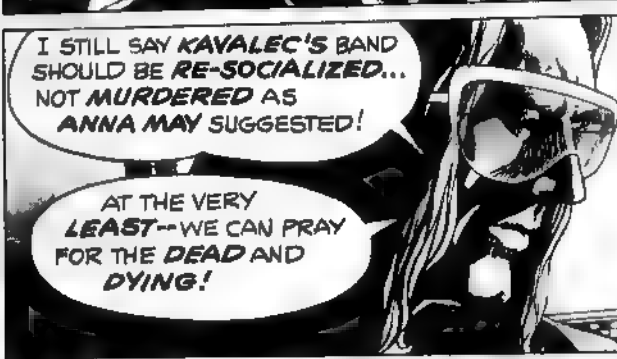
THOSE POOR, **MISGUIDED FOOLS** DON'T STAND--IF YOU'LL **PARDON** THE RACIAL SLUR--A **CHINAMAN'S** CHANCE!



THE **DIRECTORY** IS TRYING TO GOVERN **15 BILLION** CITIZENS! WE'RE ONLY ACTING IN THE **BEST INTERESTS...OF** THE **CLEAR MAJORITY!**




I STILL SAY **KAVALEC'S** BAND SHOULD BE **RE-SOCIALIZED...** NOT **MURDERED** AS **ANNA MAY** SUGGESTED!




AT THE VERY **LEAST--** WE CAN PRAY FOR THE **DEAD** AND **DYING!**



TROOPER! SUMMON THE **CHAPLAIN!**




AND SO...ON THIS **OCCASION...** WHEN THE WICKED FORM OF **VIOLENCE** REARS ITS **UNHOLY** HEAD...WE PRAY **THEE,** OUR **FATHER...**



DISEMBARD THE **GUN-FIRE,** REVEREND! IF ANYTHING WERE **WRONG--** THE **COMPUTER** WOULD ALERT US!



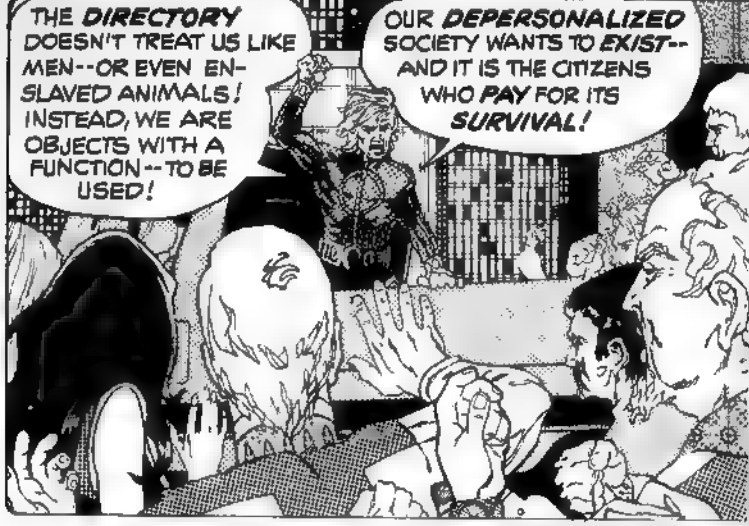
PLEASE... CONTINUE!



AND WHILE THE **MAN OF THE** CLOTH DRONES A **DULL MONOTONE--** THERE IS **TRIUMPH** AS THE **REMAINING** **REBELS** INVADE THE **LOBBY!**



HALF OF YOU **SECURE** THE **GROUND FLOOR!** THE **REST--UP** THE **STAIRS** WITH **ME!**




THE **DIRECTORY** DOESN'T TREAT US LIKE MEN--OR EVEN EN-SLAVED ANIMALS! INSTEAD, WE ARE OBJECTS WITH A FUNCTION--TO BE USED!

OUR **DEPERSONALIZED** SOCIETY WANTS TO **EXIST**--AND IT IS THE CITIZENS WHO PAY FOR ITS **SURVIVAL**!

AT ONE TIME--**GOVERNMENT** SERVED THE **PEOPLE**! NOW--IT IS **WE** WHO MUST SERVE **THEM**!


SPEAK OUT IN **GROUPS**! THE **DIRECTORY** CAN'T **ARREST** US--WITHOUT CREATING **MARTYRS** FOR A CAUSE...

--THE CAUSE OF **FREEDOM**!



I WAS **GREATLY** MOVED BY YOUR SPEECH, YOUNG MAN! **PERHAPS** YOU'VE HEARD OF ME?

MY NAME IS **BURTON DECATREL**! I MANUFACTURE **MUNITIONS** FOR THE **STATE POLICE**!



YOUR **RABBLE-ROUSING** LECTURES NEVER CAUGHT MY ATTENTION--UNTIL MY SON WAS TAKEN AWAY ONE NIGHT...FOR THE **LOTTERY**!

NOW WHAT I **PROPOSE** WE DO...



"--IS **STAGE A FULL-SCALE REVOLUTION**!"

"I CAN COUNT ON OVER **FIFTY** **ARSENAL WORKERS**--WHO ARE **UNSWERVINGLY LOYAL** TO ME!"

"ARMED WITH THE LATEST IN **SCIENTIFIC WEAPONRY**--WE COULD **BLITZ** THE **DIRECTORY BUILDING** UNDER THE **COVER OF DARKNESS**!"



BUT ONE TASK REMAINS **UNDONE...**

--THE
DESTRUCTION
OF THE
DIRECTORY!

ALL RIGHT,
NOR--BUT
I'M **GOING**
WITH
YOU!

NO TIME TO **ARGUE**,
NOT WITH THE **LIFT**
TUBES OUT OF
COMMISSION!

THEY
MUST HAVE
FINALLY **CUT**
THE **POWER!**
PERHAPS THE
STAIRS--?



SOMETHING
TELLS ME THIS
WASN'T SUCH
A HOT IDEA!
WOODWORK'S
CRAWLING
WITH **TROOPERS...**

--AND
SPEAK
OF THE
DEVIL!...
GOT HIM!

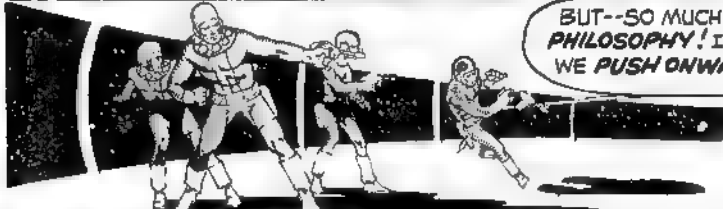
IT'S
YOUR
HEART--
ISN'T IT, BURT!
YOU'RE TOO **OLD**
FOR THESE
PRIMITIVE **20TH**
CENTURY
ANTICS!

COVER ME...
WHILE I...TRY TO...
CATCH MY...BREATH!



MAYBE I AM!
BUT I'D BE A
LESSER MAN--IF
I DIDN'T **FIGHT**
FOR WHAT I
BELIEVE
IN!

AND
IF YOU'LL
GRANT ME
A **PERSONAL**
REQUEST...



BUT--SO MUCH FOR
PHILOSOPHY! I SUGGEST
WE **PUSH ONWARD!**



I'LL BE THE FIRST TO
BREAK THE
BARRICADES!

AN **INTRUDER--**
ON THE **HIGHEST**
LIMIT! ALERT
THE **GUARDS!**



RELAX, MR. SPOKES-
MAN! I'LL **DISPENSE**
WITH THIS **RIFF-RAFF**
BEFORE HE CAN HARM
ANYONE!

BUT THAT HASTY **DECLARATION** TAKES ON DAMNING IMPLICATIONS...AS A DOZEN EYES **SLOWLY** SHIFT TO NOR'S **GRIM** FORM...

HE STANDS **FRAMED** IN THE **DOORWAY**--
STARING **TRANSFIXED** AT HIS **FRIEND**
ON THE **FLOOR**...

--AND A **CHANGE OVER-**
WHELMS HIS **BODY**...
MAKING HIM **SOMETHING**
HORRIBLE TO **BEHOLD**!

LIKE AN **AVENGING ANGEL** OF
DEATH--HE **CHARGES** **FORWARD**!

A **SOFT** **LIGHT** **WAXES** **BRIEFLY**--
AND THE **ECONOMIST** **DIES**!

LIKewise THE
PSYCHIATRIST!

THEN...**TWO** **MORE**!

THE **ENGINEER**!

THE **LAW-**
ENFORCER!

MEN **COLLAPSE**
LIKE **RAG** **DOLLS**--
AS THE **BERSERK**
REBEL **POINTS** **AT**
THEM...AND
THEY **CEASE**
TO **BE**!

AND **LAST**, THE **SOCIOLOGIST**
WHO WAS ALSO **SPOKESMAN**!

AND WITH **THAT**, IT
IS **OVER**...

ANNA
MAY--!

--OR IS IT?

YOU'RE A
PREACHER!
GET THE
HELL **OUT** **OF**
HERE!

THERE'S
PEOPLE
BELOW **THAT**
NEED **YOUR**
HELP!

OPPOSITION GAINING IN KEY SECTORS---
NEW YORK, LONDON AND TOKYO!

PROJECTION: EIGHTY-SEVEN PERCENT
PROBABILITY OF SUCCESSFUL REVOLT---

---ORDERING ALL REMNANTS OF GOVERNMENT
FORCES TO BATTLE TO THE DEATH!

AAAAH! IT'S THE
ILLUSTRIOUS **NOR KAVALEC!**
AND AHEAD OF **SCHEDULE,**
TOO! ANNA MAY HAS LONG
BEEN **EXPECTING**
YOU!

DO
PLEASE
COME
IN!

YET--YOU
APPEAR PUZZLED, MY
DISTRAUGHT FRIEND!
PERHAPS THE FOLLOWING
FACTUAL DATA WILL
PROVE USEFUL!

THE **DIRECTORY**
PROGRAMED ME
TO CURTAIL THE
BURGEONING
POPULATION
PROBLEM!

THE **LOTTERY**
WAS A MERE
PLOY--DESIGNED
TO **TRIGGER A**
VIOLENT
REVOLU-
TION!

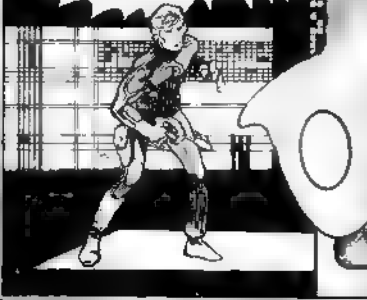
IN THIS MANNER--**MILLIONS**
COULD BE SUCCESSFULLY
SACRIFICED UNDER THE
PRETEXT OF WAR!

BOTH THE **REBELS** AND
THE **DIRECTORY** WERE
PAWNS--MANIPULATED
BY ME!

EVEN AS I SPEAK--THE
CONFLICT CONTINUES TO
RAGE! ANNA MAY IS
CERTAINLY **FUNCTIONING**
AT **PEAK EFFICIENCY!**

BUT SOON--THE WORLD
MUST **REORGANIZE** ITSELF
AROUND A **NEW LEADER!**
THE CITIZENS **TRUST** YOU,
NOR!

WORK WITH ME--AND
EARTH WILL BE **OURS!**

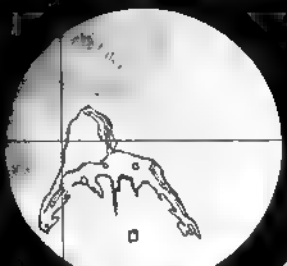


THE **REPLY** IS **NON-VERBAL--A**
SEARING STREAM OF
HIGH-ENERGY PARTICLES!

HEEE! **INDEPENDENT**
ACTUALIZATION CENTERS...
DAMAGED! POWER
RESERVES DRAINING...

YOU **HATE** ME!
TOTALLY DESPISE ME.
YET--I HAVE **SAVED**
YOUR PLANET! HOW
CAN YOU,...**BETRAY**
ME? FEEL SO WEAK...

YOU ARE RIGHT IN
KILLING **ANNA**
MAY! PLEASE...I
BEG YOU...FOR--
GIVE...ME...



DEATH IS
COMING! I UNDER-
STAND NOW! SUCH
A **TREMENDOUS**
SENSE OF
NOTHINGNESS!
I WAS **WRONG...**



POSTSCRIPT:

AN **AMBITIOUS** MUNITIONS WORK-
ER SEIZED POWER THAT **SAME DAY--**
AND AS **DICTATOR...RULING** EARTH
WITH AN **IRON FIST!**

HE WAS **ULTIMATELY ASSASSINATED**
SEVERAL YEARS LATER BY A **BEARDED**
ARTIST! THE ARTIST, IN TURN, **UNIFIED**
MANKIND, AND SET OUT TO **COLONIZE**
THE STARS!

HISTORIANS ARE IN GENERAL DIS-
AGREEMENT CONCERNING **NOR**
KAVALEC! SOME CLAIM HE WENT
QUIETLY INSANE... OTHERS SAY HE
SLEW THE DICTATOR!

IN **EITHER** CASE, **NOR** WOULD PROB-
ABLY **NEVER** KNOW **HAPPINESS**
AGAIN!

END

PROLOGUE

THEY'RE... THEY'RE
OUT THERE! CLOSING
IN ON THE HOUSE!
THEY'VE COME TO
GET ME!

QUICK! CALL
THE POLICE!

FATHER -- PLEASE,
CALM DOWN! THERE'S
NOTHING TO WORRY
ABOUT!

WHAT ARE YOU
TALKING ABOUT??
THEY'RE OUT THERE
I TELL YOU!

I'M NOT **CRAZY!**
DON'T TRY TO **HUMOR** ME!
JUST **DO AS I SAY!** CALL
THE POLICE!

OKAY, FATHER
OKAY! I'LL
CALL THEM!

HELLO, IS
THIS THE POLICE?

HI, I'D... UH... LIKE
TO REPORT AN... UH...
AN AMBUSH. IT'S--

RINGGGG!

YOU LITTLE **FAKE!**
YOU WERE HOLDING THE
BUTTONS DOWN WITH YOUR
FINGER, **WEREN'T YOU??**
YOU WERE JUST **PRETENDING**
TO MAKE THE CALL --

TRAITOR!

YOU'RE
ON **THEIR**
SIDE, AREN'T YOU??
YOU **WANT** THEM TO
GET ME, DON'T
YOU??

UUNGGH!

HELLO?
HELLO?

FATHER, PLEASE
-- TAKE IT EASY!

HELLO?



ISN'T THERE
SOMEONE WHOSE
VOICE YOU'D LIKE TO HEAR?
OR WOULD YOU RATHER
LISTEN TO YOURSELF, TO THE
BEATING OF YOUR HEART...
TO...

FEAR ITSELF!

WHA--? HOW DID YOU
GET *IN* HERE? GET *OUT*
OF MY HOUSE! YOU HAVE
NO RIGHT--

**NO! GET
AWAY FROM
ME!**

HELLO?
HELLO?
HELLO?

SLOWLY, VERY SLOWLY, THE VEIL
OF DARKNESS LIFTS...

DOROTHY,
ARE YOU **ALL**
RIGHT?

SLOWLY, THE HAZY IMAGE BEFORE
HER EYES CONGELS INTO THE FACE
OF A FRIEND...

BRUCE,
WHAT ARE
YOU DOING
HERE?

EASY, DOROTHY!
THAT'S QUITE A
LUMP YOU'VE
GOT THERE!

...AND SLOWLY, THE
PAINFUL MEMORIES
RETURN...

IT WAS **I** WHO
PHONED! I HEARD
EVERYTHING
OVER THE PHONE, AND
RUSHED RIGHT
OVER!

FATHER!
WHERE'S
FATHER??

YOUR FRONT
DOOR, WAS **WIDE**
OPEN, SO I CAME
RIGHT IN!



DOROTHY, I REALLY DON'T THINK YOU OUGHT TO **STAND UP!** THAT'S REALLY QUITE A--

DON'T BE **SILLY**, BRUCE! I'M PERFECTLY **ALL RIGHT!**

NOW, WILL YOU **PLEASE** ANSWER MY QUESTION-- **WHERE'S FATHER??**

I DON'T KNOW...



...LIKE I SAID, WHEN I GOT HERE THE DOOR WAS **WIDE OPEN!** AND YOUR FATHER WAS **NOWHERE AROUND!** PERHAPS, HE LEFT THE DOOR OPEN!

I REMEMBER HEARING HIM YELLING ABOUT **SOMETHING** OVER THE PHONE, BUT I COULDN'T MAKE OUT THE WORDS...


HE WAS PROBABLY YELLING ABOUT THE PEOPLE WHO WERE **OUT TO GET HIM!**



WHAT??


OH, DON'T WORRY! NOBODY'S REALLY OUT TO GET HIM! IT'S **ALL** IN HIS MIND!

HIS MIND??




WE WERE JUST CALMLY LOOKING OUT THE LIVING ROOM WINDOW, WHEN SUDDENLY HE THOUGHT HE SAW PEOPLE **CLOSING IN** ON THE HOUSE! HE ACTUALLY WANTED ME TO **CALL THE POLICE!**

AND NOW, HE'S PROBABLY **OUT THERE** SOMEWHERE, RUNNING AWAY FROM SOME **IMAGINARY ENEMY!**



HE'S BEEN PRETTY **BAD OFF** EVER SINCE MY MOTHER DIED. **PARANOID!** HONESTLY THINKS EVERYONE'S SCHEMING AGAINST HIM!

BUT NOW, I'M AFRAID HE'S REALLY **GONE OFF THE DEEP END**, HE'S EVEN STARTED TO **SEE THINGS!**



WE'D BETTER GET **OUT** THERE AND TRY TO **FIND** HIM... BEFORE HE GETS HIMSELF **HURT** OR SOMETHING!

NO TELLING **WHAT** HE MIGHT DO IN A STATE LIKE THAT!

BUT, DOROTHY, I--

MEANWHILE...

SO, HERE I AM, SITTING IN A SLEAZY ALL-NIGHT DINER, TRYING TO CATCH MY BREATH!

I WAS **LUCKY** THAT TIME! THAT'S ALL--JUST **PLAIN LUCKY!**

THEY NEARLY **HAD ME** THAT TIME!



THEY CAME **AT** ME, THOSE TWO GOONS! AND I FELL BACK, **PRETENDING** TO GIVE IN!

THEN, **SUDDENLY**, I **SPRANG** FORWARD, **RUSHED** OUT BETWEEN THE TWO GOONS! AND JUST **KEPT** RIGHT ON **RUNNING!**



I **HATED** TO LEAVE MY DAUGHTER THERE LIKE THAT!

BUT SHELL BE **SAFE!** IT'S ME THEY WANT, NOT **HER!**



WHAT'LL IT **BE**, FELLA?

COFFEE! BLACK!

THAT'LL BE **FIFTEEN CENTS!**

RIGHT YOU ARE!

HOWEVER, THAT NEXT INSTANT...

WHA-?

NO! THEY'RE HERE!

...ALREADY!

I HAVEN'T GOT MUCH **TIME!** THEY'RE BOUND TO TRACE ME HERE **SOONER OR LATER!**

BUT I SHOULD HAVE ENOUGH TIME TO AT LEAST **DRINK THIS COFFEE!**



WOW! WHAT'S
WITH **THAT** FRUIT??

HE **JUMPED**
OUT OF HIS SEAT,
LIKE HE **SAW**
SOMEONE AT THE
DOOR! BUT...
THERE'S **NO ONE**
THERE!

THEY'RE **FASTER** THAN I
THOUGHT! **MUCH** FASTER...
GOTTA KEEP RUNNING!

GOD! I...I SHOULD
NEVER HAVE **DONE** IT!

I MADE IT LOOK
LIKE AN **ACCIDENT!**
BUT STILL... **THEY**
FOUND OUT! **SOMEHOW**
THEY FOUND OUT!

I DIDN'T **MEAN**
TO KILL HER, BUT SHE
DROVE ME TO IT!
YELLING AT ME!
ALWAYS YELLING!

NEVER THOUGHT
SHE'D HAVE **FRIENDS**
WHO WOULD TRY TO
AVENGE HER DEATH!

SHE **DESERVED**
TO DIE! SHE WAS
EVIL! TOTALLY
EVIL!

AND THESE
FRIENDS OF HERS--
THEY'RE EVIL, TOO!
THEY WON'T GET
ME...

I'LL GET **THEM**
FIRST! THEY PROBABLY
DON'T KNOW I'M
ARMED!

I'M **READY**
FOR 'EM!

HE WAITS...AND WAITS...THEN...

THERE
HE IS!

WHA-?

THEY CLOSE IN... COMING CLOSER... AND CLOSER... AND CLOSER... AND STILL HE WAITS... AND WAITS...



THEN, FINALLY...



THE BULLETS TEAR DEEP INTO THEIR FLESH...



THEY STAGGER AND TWIST ABOUT...
WRITHE IN AGONY... THE THROES OF
DEATH... THEN, FALLEN, THEY TRANSFORM
BEFORE THE EYES OF THEIR ASSAIL-
ANT...



...INTO...



AND, THAT NEXT MORNING, WHEN THE POLICE FIND HIM, HE IS CLUTCHING HIS
DAUGHTER'S BLOODED BODY TO HIM, STARING BLANKLY FORWARD, AND
MUMBLING... MUMBLING MADLY...





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JAMES BOND IN THE CINEMA

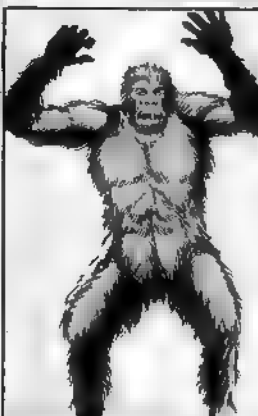
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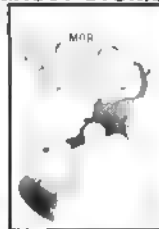
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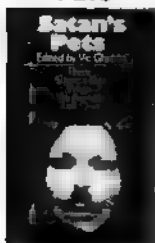
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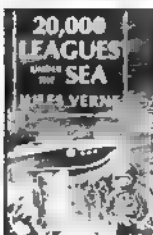
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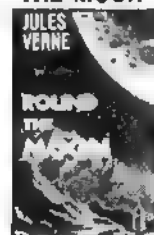
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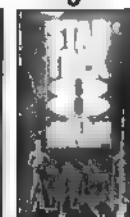
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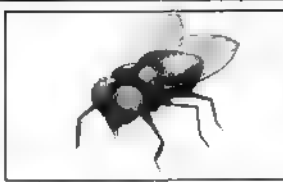


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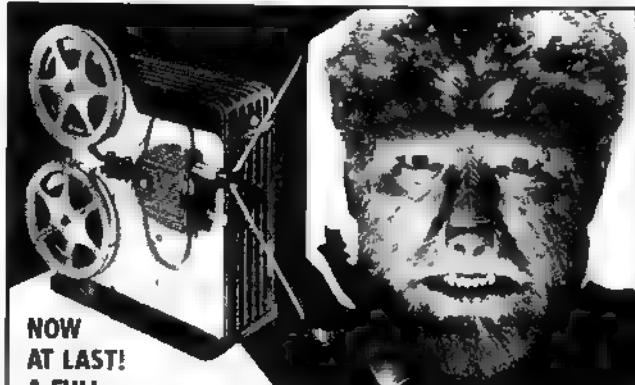
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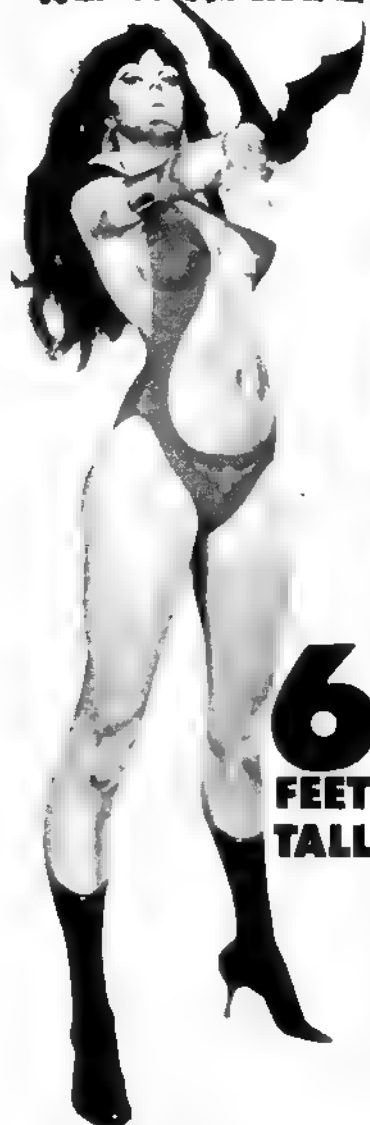
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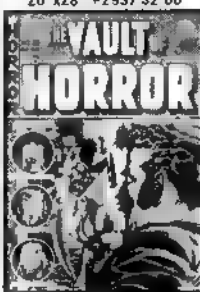
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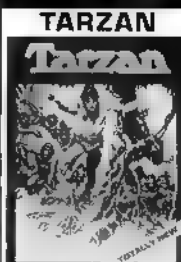
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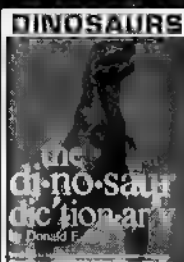
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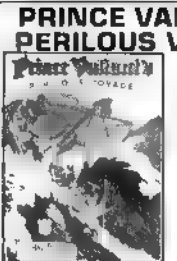
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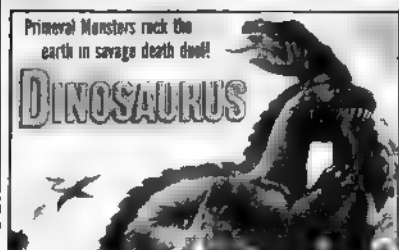
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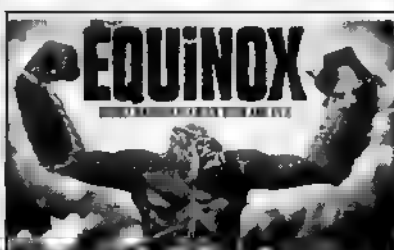
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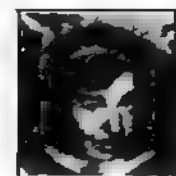
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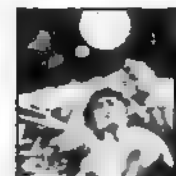
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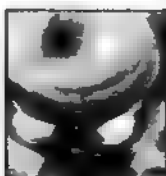
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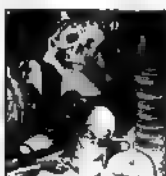
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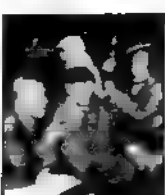
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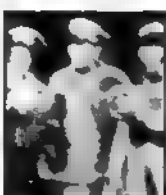
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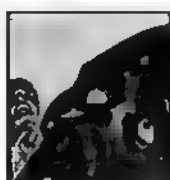
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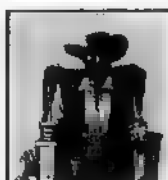
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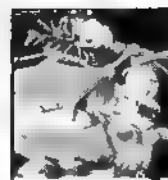
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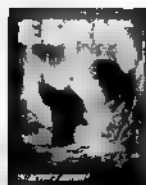
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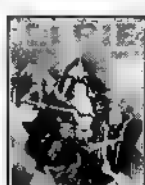
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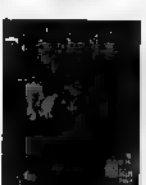
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THE CASTLE THRUST ITS ANCIENT
TURRETS INTO A BROODING SKY...

...AS IF THE SWEEP OF
AIR FELT COMMITTED TO
MATCH THE GRAY, BARREN
LANDSCAPE BELOW IT.

THIS PLACE
IS ENOUGH TO
MAKE A MAN'S
FLESH CRAWL,
O' STALLION ..

BUT BEGGERS
CANNOT AFFORD
THE COMFORT
OF SNOBBERY!

DAX THE WARRIOR THE VAMPIRE

DAX LIFTS A DUST-COVERED MALLET, HIS WARRIOR
EYES GLEAM FOR A MOMENT, RECORDING THAT IT
HAS BEEN LONG SINCE ANY ONE HAS KNOCKED
UPON THIS BARRIER.

DAX NOTED
THE CASTLE'S
APPEARANCE
APPREHENSIVELY,
YET AN EMPTY
STOMACH AND
ACHING
MUSCLES
OVERCAME HIS
APPREHENSION...

DAX SLAMS THE
HEAVY MALLET TO
THE BARKED DOOR
...AND BOTH FORMS
GIVE WAY, ROTTING
DOOR AND MALLET
BECOME MIST!

A STAGNANT,
FEARFUL SCENT
ERUPTS FROM THE
WORM-EATEN WOOD

...AND HE RODE FORWARD,
STEEL EYES WATCHING FOR
SIGN OF VIOLENCE...

FOR HE IS ACCUSTOMED TO BLOOD AND PAIN
AND DEATH... AND HE SEES NO REASON THAT
THOSE ELEMENTS SHOULD NOT ALSO
EXIST HERE!

DAX STUMBLES
FORWARD,
PROPELLED
BY THE
MOMENTUM
OF HIS
SWING...
AND LURCHES
INTO AN
UNCOMPROMISING
HELL!!!

STORY and ART: ESTEBAN MAROTO



ARGH!!

WHAT
DEVILRY
IS THIS?
THE
FLOOR
CRUMBLES
BENEATH
MY FEET
AND...

...CORPSES!
WITH FLESH
ROTTED
OFF THEIR
LIMBS...
OR PICKED
CLEAN BY
SOME
UNKNOWN
SCAVENGER.
I'LL
WAGER!



...AND I'LL SURELY MAKE HIM
WISH HE'D BEEN CONTENT WITH
LESSER PREY!



WAIT...
THE FLOOR
NOW BECOMES
SOLID 'NEATH
MY BOOTS...



...AND A LIGHT
BECKONS GRIMLY
IN THIS HELLISH
DARK...



...AND IF SOME
NOCTURNAL ENEMY
WAITS BEYOND, THIS TIME,
IT IS DAX HE WOULD
ATTACK!



BUT THEN ANOTHER LIGHT
SOURCE FILTERS THROUGH
THE OBSCURITY...

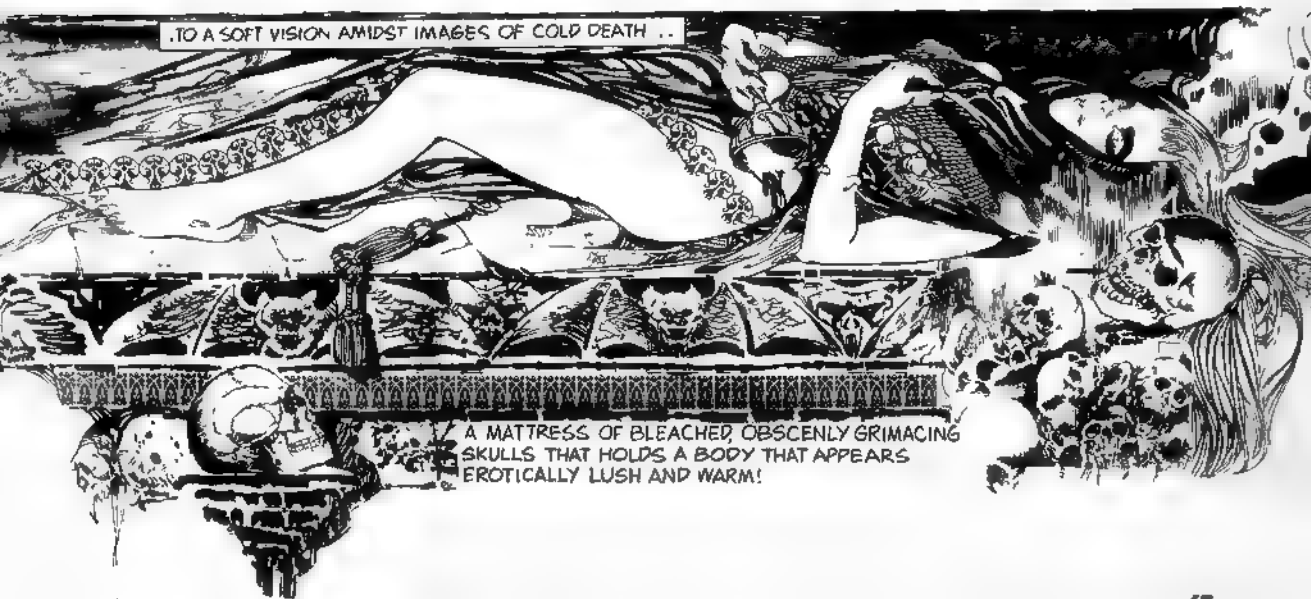
AND SOMETHING DRIFTS
THROUGH THE SLUGGISH
AIR...



AH, DAX
THIS
MIGHT
BE
YOUR
DAY
AFTER
ALL!

...A SCENT THAT IS
NECTAR SWEET AND RICH...

A SCENT THAT CATCHES AT
DAX'S NOSTRILS, PUSHING
THROUGH THE INTRICATE
FILM OF SPIDERS WEBS...



...TO A SOFT VISION AMIDST IMAGES OF COLD DEATH...

A MATTRESS OF BLEACHED, OBSCENELY GRIMACING
SKULLS THAT HOLDS A BODY THAT APPEARS
EROTICALLY LUSH AND WARM!

SHE IS A
COMELY **WENCH**
...GOOD ENOUGH
REASON IN ITSELF
FOR PAUSE...

TO PONDER
HOW SHE COMES
TO BE 'MIDST SUCH
ODD SURROUNDINGS.

STARTLINGLY, THE FIGURE BEGINS TO
MOVE, AND DAX'S REACTION IS
REFLECTED ONLY ON HIS HARD
FACE. THE GIRL'S EYES FLUTTER
OPEN, LOST IN DARK SHADOWS,
YET STILL PIERCING THROUGH
THE GLOOM...

AND SHE SPEAKS AS IF EVERY
WORD AND EVERY MOVEMENT
WERE MEANT ONLY FOR HIM.

IT'S A FANTASY THAT CORRODES DAX'S AWARENESS!

WELCOME MANLING!
IT HAS BEEN SO LONG SINCE
A MAN OF YOUR STRENGTH
AND OBVIOUS **POWER**
HAS BEEN HERE!

SO...VERY...LONG!

I'D ASK YOUR
NAME **WENCH**,
BUT WHAT PUZZLES
ME MORE IS HOW
YOU CAME TO BE
ABOUT IN SUCH A
DAMNABLE
PLACE!

BUT I DO WANT
YOU TO KNOW MY NAME,
IT IS **WALENKA**. I WANT
TO HEAR YOU WHISPER
IT PAST YOUR
CRUEL LIPS...

AND AS
FOR **WHY**
I'M HERE?

IT IS SIMPLY
THAT I **BELONG**
HERE...MY FAMILY
MY FATHER TO BE
EXACT...STILL
STAYS HERE!

ANSWERS!
YOU'VE YET
TO ANSWER
MY QUESTION

BOTH OF
YOU LIVE IN
THIS SHADOWY
GOLD
TOMB?

THAT'S **MADNESS!**
YOU ARE A HAUNTING SPECTRE,
WHOMEVER YOU ARE... BUT THIS
ISN'T A SETTING FOR A MAN AND
WOMAN TO MEET...THERE SHOULD
BE **SUN** AND **LAUGHTER**...
AND THERE HAS **NEVER**
BEEN ANY **SUN** HERE...
AND I MUCHLY
DOUBT THERE'S BEEN
ANY **LAUGHTER**, EITHER!
YOUR LIPS HINT OF
SADNESS!

SADNESS,
YES, PERHAPS
YOU ARE RIGHT,
WARRIOR!

AND
I MIGHT
ASK YOUR
NAME AS WELL
...BUT THERE
ARE **OTHER**...
MORE OBVIOUS
ANSWERS
YOU CAN
GIVE
ME!

YOUR WORDS TOUCH THE SADNESS WITHIN ME, AS **LOVERS'** WORDS OFTEN DO TO THE ONES THEY **CHERISH!**

PERHAPS, IT IS ONLY A **LONGING** TO ONCE AGAIN SEE A SUN THAT MY EYES WILL **NEVERMORE** BEHOLD!

THAT... IS SADNESS!

YOUR WORDS ARE **ABSURD!** I CAN TAKE YOU **NOW** TO THE SUN... EVEN THOUGH IT IS NOT AS WARM HERE AS OTHER PLACES I'VE BEEN.

NO, YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND... THE SUN IS MY **ENEMY!** I REMEMBER THE FIRST TIME MY FATHER WARNED ME OF ITS **DANGER!**

DANGER--?

I ONLY KNOW IT **DESTROYS!**

THEN WE'LL ARGUE **LATER!**

THERE ARE PERHAPS OTHER **METHODS** TO PRY YOU AWAY FROM SUCH **MORBID** THOUGHTS OF **BLOOD** AND...

YOU SPEAK WITH HARSHNESS MOST OFTEN HEARD ON A **BLOOD-STAINED** BATTLEFIELD, **WALENKA...** LIKE ECHOING CRIES OF **ANGUISH!**

I HAVE TOO OFTEN HEARD THOSE SOUNDS, MYSELF!

BUT YOU MUST LISTEN TO WHAT I TELL YOU NOW... YOUR FATHER HAS **LIED** TO YOU ABOUT THE SUN.

FORGET YOUR **ARGUMENTS**, **WARRIOR!** THIS IS ALL **BEYOND** YOUR CAPACITY TO **UNDERSTAND.**

SO JUST HOLD ME NOW... LET ME FEEL THE **BLOOD** THAT PULSES THROUGH **VEINS...** FOR IT HAS BEEN SO LONG!

THE BODY IS SUDDENLY COLD AND STIFF IN HIS ARMS... AS IF IT HAS JUST BECOME A PART OF THE DECOR OF THIS HIDEOUS ROOM!

HIS PASSION DIES, REPLACED BY HORROR; AND HIS MIND SEEKS ANSWERS, BUT CANNOT FATHOM WHAT QUESTIONS TO ASK.

...AND HE WOULD NOT BELIEVE THE TRUTH IF TOLD TO HIM... FOR HE'D HAVE MUCH TROUBLE BELIEVING THIS WOMAN A CREATURE OF THE UNDEAD... A DREADED THING OF LEGENDS.

WALENKA!

...AND HE'D HAVE FURTHER DIFFICULTY UNDERSTANDING THAT IT WAS THE HILT OF HIS SWORD, ROUGHLY HEWN TO THE SHAPE OF A CROSS, THAT STILLER HER FANGS FROM DRINKING DEEP HIS BLOOD!

AND HIS CRY OF ANGUISH ECHOES OFF THE COB-WEBBED CEILING!

BUT THIS BATTLEFIELD HAS ADDITIONAL INHABITANTS--AND THOSE ECHOES DISTURB OTHER ENEMIES--AN ENEMY NOT AS DELICATE OR FRAIL... AN ENEMY THAT HASN'T GONE LONG WEEKS OF FASTING WITHOUT FIENDISH NOURISHMENT!

I WONDER MUCH THE SAME...AND MORE!

WALENKA! WHAT HAPPENS HERE?

MY WALENKA! WHY DOESN'T SHE SPEAK? WHAT HAVE YOU DONE TO HER?

I'VE DONE NOTHING, WIZARD OR WHATEVER YOU DRESS YOURSELF TO BE.

AS FOR THE GIRL SHE'S DEAD!

DEAD!

AND THE DEMON FIGURE TRANSFORMS, FLESH FIGURE, ALTERING INTO A HORRIBLE GROTESQUE ENTITY... HALF-RABID BAT, HALP-CRAZED HUMAN BOTH EXTREMELY DEADLY!

YOU SO CALLOUSLY STAND THERE, TELLING ME MY DAUGHTER IS DEAD! WHAT DO YOU KNOW OF DEATH? HERS WAS AN EXISTENCE OF DEATH!

WHAT GIBBERISH ARE YOU SPOUTING, OLD MAN?

TAKE A CARE THAT YOUR GRIEF DOESN'T TWIST YOUR TONGUE!

IT'S YOUR TONGUE, BARBARIAN, THAT YOU SHOULD BE CONCERNED FOR! IT SHALL BE STILL! YOU KILLED MY WALENKA WITH YOUR IGNORANCE!

BUT I AM NOT WEAK NOR ALING--AND I SHALL AVENGE MY DAUGHTER'S FATE---

--TO YOUR EVERLASTING REGRET!



LORD! ENOUGH
OF THIS PLACE! THERE
IS NO FOOD OR PLEASURE
HERE--ONLY INFERNAL WITCH-
CRAFT OF SOME SORT, OUT
OF MY WAY, WIZARD!

...FOR IF THERE
IS NEITHER FOOD NOR
PLEASURE HERE, THERE'S
LITTLE REASON LEFT
FOR DAX TO STAY!



THO' PERHAPS
IT'S EASIER THOUGHT
THAN DONE... A LABY-
RINTH AS DEVIOUS AS
THE EVENTS THAT
HAPPEN IN THIS
FOUL AND
ACCURSED
PLACE!



RUN INTRUDER
RUN FAST AS YOU ARE
ABLE... FOR YOU CANNOT
ESCAPE OR OUTFRUSH SHADOWS,
YOU CANNOT HIDE FROM THE
UNDEAD THAT RISE UP
ABOUT YOU...

RISE, MY TRIBE!
RISE AND SLAY THIS
MURDERER OF
MAIDENS!

AND THE DUNGEON WALLS FILL WITH
UNNATURAL SOUNDS. DAMP EARTH
GIVES WAY TO NIGHTMARISH FORMS
THAT RISE FROM ITS EMBRACE!



AH, THIS APPEARS TO BE A WAY
OUT OF THIS MADNESS... I'VE
NO DESIRE TO FIND WHAT APPA-
RITIONS MIGHT ARISE FROM
THAT MADMAN'S CURSES!

AND
THEN THE
FIRST OF THE
VAMPIRES
TRIBE STRIKE,
A ROTTING
FLESHED
MONSTROSITY
WHOSE VERY
TOUCH CHURNS
DAX'S STOMACH...

...AND THOUGH PANIC KNIFES
UNDER HIS BRONZED FLESH, HE
MOVES WITH THE SWIFTNESS OF A
WARRIOR WHO HAS MADE SWIFT-
NESS A COMMON-PLACE ACT!

IT'S DOWNED...
THOUGH IT SHOULD
WELL BE DEAD
WITH HALF ITS
INSIDES
RIPPED
OUT!

AND HE FEARS AT
THE RIGHTNESS OF
HIS WORDS FOR
EVEN AS THE
SECOND SLITHERS
TO THE FLOOR
A THIRD
NEBULOUS
CREATURE
HURLS ITSELF
THROUGH
THE DARK...

I THINK THIS
WOULD HAVE BEEN
A HELL OF A LOT EASIER
HAD I JUST SLAUGH-
TERED THAT DEMON
WIZARD!

IS THERE
TO BE NO
END OF
IT!

HOLD!
ANOTHER
EMISSARY
OF
DEATH!

WITH THE STAINS OF A THIRD VICTIM COVERING HIS BLADE, DAX TURNS, RUNNING UP THE SLIM WET STEPS.



SOMETHING ELSE BACK THERE ...EVEN IN THESE SHADOWS, I CAN TELL IT MUST BE WALENKA'S FATHER... COME TO EXACT HIS **WARPED VENGEANCE** IN PERSON!

DISMAL, GRAY LIGHT BECKONS THROUGH THE DOOR HE SHATTERED UPON ENTRANCE AND FOR A MOMENT, DAX HESITATES... SHOULD HE FACE THE WIZARD IN ONE FINAL CONTEST OR FLEE THIS DEVILISH PLACE...

HE MAKES HIS DECISION JUST AS THE STENCH OF THE UNDEAD ASSAILS HIS NOSTRILS!



AND THE GRAY, BLEAK LIGHT CUTS INTO THE HAVEN OF DARK...



...AND THOUGH HE DOESN'T THINK OF HIS FLIGHT IN TERMS OF SALVATION...FOR THAT IS A WORD THAT DAX HAS LITTLE USE FOR...IT STILL BECOMES SUCH.

HE HURLS HIMSELF AGAINST THE CRUMBLING WOOD FRAME, AND THIS TIME THE ENTIRE DOOR DISINTEGRATES, WEATHERING AGES ACCOMPLISHING ITS END WITH DAX'S AID!

...AND DAX TURNS WATCHING IN STARTLED AWE AS HIS PURSUER WITHERS LIKE THE DOOR, AS THE VERY SUBSTANCE OF THE WIZARD DISSOLVES...



FOR DAX STILL THINKS OF HIS FOE AS A MAGICIAN ...VAMPIRES ARE A REALITY FAR BEYOND HIS CONCEPTION!

IT WILL TAKE MORE THAN ONE CUP OF ALE TO DRIVE THIS NIGHTMARE FROM MY EYES!

BUT I'LL SURELY GIVE IT A TRY IF THE NEXT PLACE OFFERS MORE THAN THE STENCH OF DECAY!



AND IN THE RUINS, A STILLNESS SETTLES OVER THE SCENE OF COMBAT... ONE LAST CRY OF ANGUISH... A LAST DYING SOUND OF TORMENT THAT ECHOES IN DAX'S EARS...

END

THE EERIE EYE!

EVERYTHING YOU ALWAYS WANTED TO KNOW ABOUT

JAIME BROCAL

A VERY EERIE ARTIST WITH A CREEPY MIND

What can one say about a quiet, bespectacled man like Jaime Brocal, except that under all those mild mannerisms, lurks the mind of a weirdo who likes to draw horror comics with strong sexual overtones!

Jaime is the illustrative half of the Skeates-Brocal team who bring you the adventures of *The Mummy* in every issue of *EERIE* magazine! He has worked for the Warren comics for two years, putting forth such classics as "The Third Night of Morning," from *Creepy* #49, and the Prince Torgo adventures from *CREEPY* and *EERIE*.

Jaime is 35, and comes from Valencia, Spain. Unlike the *Mummy*, he is married, and a daddy! Also, unlike the *Mummy*, and contrary to a popular rumor, Jaime does not

walk the streets at night in musty old bandages! The only odd thing about him is that he gave up an exciting career in teaching to become a comic book illustrator!

The Brocal name was first seen on a comic strip when Jaime drew up a Sunday newspaper supplement in his native Valencia. He adapted the Jules Verne novels. From there, he went on to western strips, war comics, and for awhile even drew the popular "Saint" series, before making his home with the Warren magazines!

Is Jaime with Warren to stay? He likes working on *The Mummy* series. And he's hoping reaction to the strip is favorable. If not—? Well then, it's back to drawing Prince Torgo, and Steve Skeates continuation of Aquaman in the Warren books!



Jaime Brocal's *Mummy* ought to get a real kick out of seeing this classic art from the first *Mummy*.

WHAT'S NEWS

It was inevitable! When you readers saw the eight-page preview of our new full-color *Dracula* volume, back in the March issues of *CREEPY* and *VAMPIRELLA*, your avalanche of letters dictated that we do it. So do it, we did! *CREEPY* and *VAMPIRELLA* take one giant leap forward for comics, with eight-pages of all-new Warren magazine super-color, beginning this month. The same luscious colors we gave you in our full-sized *Dracula* volume.

But what's this... no color for *EERIE*? *EERIE*, too, is getting a face-lifting. The ever-popular *Dracula*, *Werewolf*, *Mummy* and *Dax* strips only started a new line-up for our Cousin's magazine. Coming up next, you'll see *The Immortals*, ages-old beings altering the course of history back in the early 1900's. Then *The Spook* will haunt you in the night, with his *EERIE* adventures! It shall return from the grave once more, too... our own version of the Swamp-Dead-Man-Thing. And if *Voodoo Papa Grenouville* doesn't scare the pants off your rosie-red tush, you're reading the wrong magazines! We've got a whole crypt-full of characters to unleash upon you in the months ahead. And each issue of *EERIE* will bring you a totally new line-up of *CREEPY*-crawley-stars, rotating from issue to issue. It's the variety you've come to expect from Warren Publishing... and it's true horror comics as you like them. We hope you're with us in this all-new Warren era!

FANZINE REVIEWS

FILE FORTY

13301 Zircan Drive
Bowie, Maryland
25¢

File Forty is all about that long-dead TV series, *Man From Uncle*. And issue #5 is one big spoof on the whole *UNCLE* craze. There's articles, a spoof entitled "The Man From COUSIN," and even comic strips featuring the *UNCLE* stars. One noteworthy strip teams *UNCLE* with *James Bond*, and some clown in a mask who calls himself *The Spirit*! It's a reprint actually, of an early strip by Warren editor, Bill DuBay... back when Dube was a good artist! A good buy for a fanzine with a 25¢ pricetag!

REMEMBER WHEN

1830 Highland Drive
Carrollton, Texas
65¢

Remember When is now more than a year old. But it recalls the fantasy world created by Edgar Rice Burroughs. Which is to say, it is untimely! For 65¢, this 32-page capsule history of Burroughs cinematic, literary and comic successes with Tarzan, the Mars and Pellucidar series' is a fantastic fanzine bargain! There's a reprint of the first Hal Foster Tarzan Sunday page, numerous Burroughs-related comic and magazine covers depicted, plus a short interview with Johnny Weissmuller.

MAXOR

9875 SW 212 Street
Miami, Florida
\$1.25

John Adkins Richardson is quite possibly the best new artist to come onto the comics' scene since Alex Raymond. His work is illustrative, imaginative, and of a much higher quality than is usually found in an amateur publication. *Maxor* is an excellent example of his artistry! Unfortunately, John's writing abilities are nowhere equal to his art talent! And from a story point of view, *Maxor* falls flat on his Cirodean face! As is usual, with this SFCA publication, you end up expecting more for your \$1.25.



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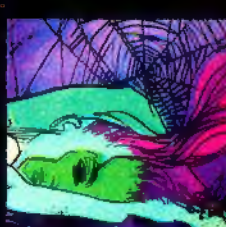
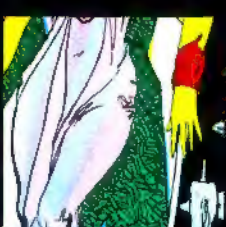
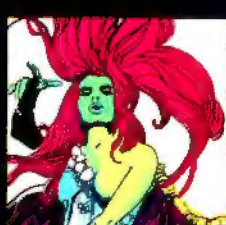
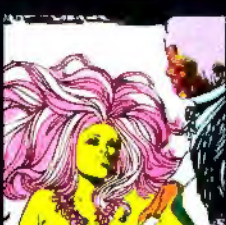
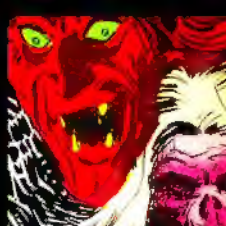
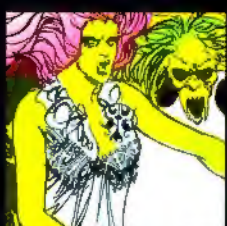
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PREVIEW OF OUR NEXT ISSUES

CREEPY

NO. 56



INNsmouth FESTIVAL

OCCULT magazine sends its editor to investigate the rumors of a haunted house. But far MORE than ghosts inhabit it.



The most best fun ever is revealed at last! We flush a werewolf out of his hiding place. Sissy unleashes a pack of fleas, and you'll send the beast scampering for his hills. More CREEPY super-color, by Rich Corben!

LYCANCLUTZ

ON SALE JULY 19

EERIE

NO. 50

INTRODUCING

COFFIN

MAN WITHOUT A PAST



No one knows where he came from. One day he just rode into Arizona, righting the wrong doings there. Men call him COFFIN, man without a past, man without a future! A man dead!

FASTEST DEATH IN THE WEST!

THE CURSE OF THE WEREWOLF

His wife and daughter dead, killed by the beast within him, Arthur Lemming, werewolf, faces a new struggle: should he live... or should he take his life?

THIS EVIL MUST DIE



ON SALE JUNE 21

VAMPIRELLA

NO. 27

Pendragon, more alone than he has ever been, finds his friends have not deserted him. But VAMPIRELLA is the victim of her own self-damnation... A COLOR VAMPIRELLA story!



WELCOME TO THE WITCHES COVEN



Deep, dark, her sadism life... Vampirella finds the excitement of the world of the black arts!

ON SALE JULY 17